THE COVENANTERS IN SCOTLAND.

FROM "HELEN OF THE GLEN."

In solitudes like these
Thy persecuted children, Scotia, foiled
A tyrant's and a bigot's bloody laws:
There leaning on his spear,

* * * *

The lyart veteran heard the Word of God
By Cameron thundered, or by Renwick poured
In gentle stream; then rose the song, the loud
Acclaim of praise; the wheeling plover ceased
Her plaint; the solitary place was glad,
And on the distant cairns, the watcher's ear
Caught doubtfully at times the breeze-borne note.
Grahame.

CLAVERHOUSE, whose merciless sword widowed many a tender mother, and orphaned many a helpless infant, about this time was routed at London hill, by a party of the Covenanters, whose sufferings had driven them to arms. This event stung to the heart the proud, bold, and cruel Claverhouse. Backed by soldiers imbued with his own spirit, he neglected no exertions to pursue, torture, and kill all who could not renounce the service of their Father in Heaven, for the vassalage of an earthly tyrant. Some time before this, military trial was instituted in Scotland: and all who refused the wicked test, were instantly shot by the soldiers. The brutal dragoons plundered, tortured, murdered, and committed every species of outrage at pleasure. At no hour, in no place, whether in the house, the glen, or the cave of the mountain, were the scattered sheep of the Great Shepherd free from the persevering search, and unrelenting cruelty of their persecutors.

——"Every hour,
They stooped, prepared to die, a people doomed
To death;—old men and youths, and simple maids."

It was thus in the western districts of Scotland, when, on a fine Sabbath morning, a little after mid-summer, Mrs. Thomson was early up, and preparing, as usual, to hear the word of God, which was to be preached that day two miles down the glen, at the head of which the widow's hut stood. She left William, yet only in his sixth year, in the farm-house, and with Helen by her side, took the little sheep-path down the glen. In her hallowed imagination, the sun coming up in the rosy East unclouded, threw a purer ray over the solitary moorlands; a clearer dew sparkled on the red heather-bell; the matin hymn of the sky-lark, the varied music of the desert fowl, the bleating of the flocks, that answered from knoll to knoll, the minstrelsy of the brook, and the gentle sigh of the zephyr that played among the wild mountain flowers, all assumed a chaster, holier cadence, and seemed to confess the presence of the blessed day. Here and there was seen over the brown moor, like vessels scattered over the ocean, the solitary peasant travelling toward the glen, to meet the servant of God. Little Helen, with a profusion of fair ringlets, already floating on her neck and shoulders, now plucked the wild thyme, now looked to the playful chases of the lamb, and anon listened to her mother, while she admonished her to hear the word of God with reverence and attention.

Thus engaged, they arrived at the place agreed on for meeting with the faithful ambassador of Jesus. The man of God was already there; and his little congregation mostly gathered around him. The place chosen for this day's worship of the Most High, was hidden from the distant view by the sides of the glen; one of which, withdrawing five or six yards from the streamlet, left a small green plain in the shape of a crescent. Here rose a large gray stone, on which the minister rested the Holy Book. Before him, on the rising ground, trode by the sheep into paths rising one above another, resembling a flight of steps, sat his rustic audience, thirsting for the water of life. On a knoll at a small distance, watched one of their friends to give the alarm in case of the appearance of the persecuting soldiers. The minister, to whose church Mrs. Thomson, in her earlier days, had often walked with her father and mother, had been driven from his flock and his family by violence; and now, concealed by the peasants who loved him and fed him by their kindness, he took every opportunity which offered, in the cave, the moor, and the sheep-cot, to distribute among the poor, hunted followers of the Cross, the bread and water of life.

His figure was graceful, of the ordinary size; his countenance mild, full of resignation and heavenly zeal. Time had left his forehead bare; but behind and on each side flowed down plentiful locks, woolly and white as the snow of the mountains.

The venerable man now threw a glance of fatherly compassion on his little flock, lifted the Bible from the gray stone, opened it, and read these verses from that mournful psalm sung by the Israelitish captives in Babylon:

By Babel's streams we sat and wept,
When Zion we thought on;
In midst thereof we hanged our harps
The willow trees upon.

For there a song required they,
Who did us captive bring:
Our spoilers called for mirth, and said,
A song of Zion sing.

O how the Lord's song shall we sing,
Within a foreign land?

If thee, Jerusalem, I forget,
Skill part from my right hand.

My tongue unto my mouth's roof cleave,
If I do thee forget,
Jerusalem, and thee above
My chief joy do not set.

To the wild, plaintive notes of old "Martyrs," this sweet melody from hearts full of gratitude and love and calm resignation ascended to the ear of the Eternal. The Psalm being ended, all arose; and the holy man turning an eye of faith to the heavens, led the congregation in a prayer, humble, fervent, and appropriate. Again he opened the Bible, and read his text from Proverbs ix. 10, and xxix. 25. "The fear of man bringeth a snare,—but the fear of Lord is the beginning of wisdom."

The sermon, though perplexed with divisions, and obscured, occasionally, by length of illustration, was affectionate, impressive, and highly enriched with quotations from the Holy Scriptures. The folly of fearing man rather than God, the everlasting security of those who fear and obey the Almighty, and the eternal confusion of those who put His fear away from them, were clearly proved, and strongly enforced by numberless passages from the volume of inspiration.

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The sermon was just finished, and the minister again offering up his heart's desire to God, when the sentinel gave the alarm that a party of cavalry was approaching. The venerable minister looked to his audience—then to heaven, and in a tone of assurance and resignation, pronounced these words: "Into thy hands, O Lord, we commit our immortal spirits." The congregation then dispersed hurriedly. The good old servant of God entreated them all to leave him, knowing that, as a price had been set on his head, the pursuit after him would be most eager.

It happened as he thought. The reverend pastor was taken, placed on horseback, his hands tied behind his back, and his ankles twisted with ropes below the belly of the animal. In this position, without refreshment, and without being permitted once to alight, he was driven to Edinburgh, a distance of fifty miles, where, after much torture, he was executed at the Grass-market, praising God and forgiving his murderers with his last breath.

AN ARCTIC PARODY.

During the search for Sir John Franklin's Arctic Expedition by the *Resolute*, a newspaper was edited on board, a fac-simile of which has since been published in England, in which, *inter alia*, we find the following capital parody of Mr. Mackay's popular song: "There's a good time coming, boys."

The north water's coming, boys,
The north water's coming!
We are certain, now, to see the day,
The Tenders there will lead the way,
In the north water coming.
Steady heave may ope the nip,
But steam's a good deal stronger,
We'll win the water by its aid,
Steam a little longer.

There's "large water" making, boys,
Large water making!
Screw! not sail, shall be the word,
To make the ice obey its lord
In the large water making;
The Tenders, then, will tow us all,
Screws than us are stronger—
The "floe" asunder has been riven,
Steam a little longer.

The "floe" is surely moving, boys,
The "floe" is surely moving!
Coil in the lines—hang the prog,
Where's the Purser?—serve the grog,
The "floe" is surely moving.
Penny's brigs may have the lead,
But steam's a good deal stronger,
Honor calls us to the north,
Steam a little longer.

The east land is sinking, boys,
The east land is sinking!
To rescue those who want our aid,
With joy alone we'll well be paid,
The east land is sinking!
The dreary west is now in sight,
We wish the wind was stronger,
But the screw can do without its aid,
Steam a little longer.

The winter ice is making, boys,
Winter ice is making!
Pay out the hawser—take in tow,
The Tender's help will fetch the "floe,"
For the winter ice is making!
Both bird and beast are fleeing south,
The north wind blows yet stronger;
By God's help we'll find them yet,
Steam a little longer.

Power of the Turkish Tenses.—One of the tenses in the Turkish language, supposes in the speaker an absolute and precise knowledge of the truth of his assertion, unrestricted in any of its relations by doubt or uncertainty: if, on the contrary, the knowledge of the fact be merely acquired from report, and though supported by testimony or its own probability, be not known to the speaker from the evidence of his own senses or experience, he expresses by a different inflection the modification with which his report is to be received.—T. Thornton's *Turkey*, &c., vol. 1, p. 40.

In the mosque of Zobaide at Tebris (Tauris?) the mortar of the Mihraub having been mixed with musk exhales the sweetest perfume.—Evlia Effedin.

Selections from the Report in the Morning Chronicle.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE,

MET this year on the 20th September, at Liverpool. The Earl of Harrowby, President elect, proceeded to deliver his inaugural address. Disclaiming for himself all pretension to those scientific acquirements which had distinguished many of his predecessors, the noble earl yet gave a luminous review of the present state of physical science. Professor Challis furnished him with some "Notes on the present State of Astronomy," which detailed the recent discoveries in that science, and Captain Fitzroy contributed to the president's discourse some practical considerations connected with that which Basil Hall said was one of the chief points of a seaman's duty—"to know where to find a fair wind, and where to fall in with a favorable current." The value of the meteorological facts, which would be collected by the new department of the Board of Trade, of which Captain Fitzroy was at the head, was impressed by what, to a Liverpool audience, should be telling considerations. In the preface to a late edition of *Johnston's Winds and Current Charts*, Dr. Buist said—"It has been shown that Lieutenant Maury's charts and sailing directions have shortened the voyages of American ships by about a-third. If the voyages of those to and from India were shortened by no more than a-tenth, it would secure a saving in freightage alone of 250,000*l.* annually. Estimating the freights of vessels trading from Europe with distant ports at 20,000,000*l.* a-year, a saving of a-tenth would be about 2,000,000*l.*, and every day that is lost in bringing the arrangements for the accomplishment of this into operation occasions a sacrifice to the shipping interest of about 6,000*l.*, without taking any account of the war navies of the world." Though the memoranda furnished by Captain Fitzroy, and read by the noble president yesterday were not to be considered as officially communicated, the nautical mind might be enlightened by a knowledge of what would be the mode of action of this newly-organized branch of scientific research. Captain Fitzroy says it is expected that several ships will be supplied with "abstract logs" (meteorological registers) and instruments in October, and that the office will be in full work next November. The Admiralty have ordered all the records in the Hydrographical office to be placed at the disposal of the Board of Trade for a sufficient time. All other documents to which Government has access will be similarly available, and the archives of the India-house may likewise be searched. There will be no want of materials, though not such as would have been obtained by using better instruments on a systematic plan. Captain Fitzroy ventures to think that the documents hitherto published by Lieutenant Maury present too much detail to the seaman's eye; that they have not been adequately condensed; and therefore are not, practically, so useful as is generally supposed. His instructions, or sailing directions—the real condensed results of his elaborate and indefatigable researches—have effected the actual benefits obtained by mariners. Reflecting on this evil, which increasing information would not tend to diminish, Captain Fitzroy proposes to collect all *data*, reduced and "meaned" (or averaged) in a number of conveniently arranged tabular books, from which, at a subsequent period, diagrams, charts, and "meteorological dictionaries," or records, will be compiled, so that, by turning to the latitude and longitude, all information about that locality may be obtained at once and distinctly. The hope was not unnaturally expressed, that the merchants and shipowners of England will not be slow to follow the example of their brethren in the United States, and will lend their heartiest assistance to so useful a work.

The noble lord passed from meteorological research to geography, ethnography, and statistics—branches of study which formed at first no part of the scheme of the British Association, but which (looking at the assistance their pursuit had afforded, both by informing and forming the public mind on many important questions), he rejoiced had been subsequently admitted. He dwelt with force upon the importance of statistical inquiry, and with respect to agricultural statistics he suggested that they should be taken and published at two periods of the year—once in the spring, recording the extent of soil devoted to each kind of grain, a fact easily ascertained; the second time as soon as the harvest is concluded, announcing the amount of the crop, as ascertained on several specimen fields under different circumstances of soil and climate, and applying it in due proportion as a multiple to the acreage already published. A really accurate census of the harvest was, he believed, impracticable, at least within the period which would alone make it valuable for present use; and the approximation which he had suggested would, he conceived, be adequate for the purpose. The noble lord glanced cheeringly at the increasing facilities for education in science which are being opened up in this country. The encouragements and assistance already given (he said) by the State to the education of the people in various shapes; the superior class of trained and examined teachers who are spreading over the land, and whose training has in no small degree been in physical science; the books provided for early education by our societies and by individual enterprise, having the same character; the everyday more

and more acknowledged connection between agriculture and science, showing itself in such papers as enrich the pages of the journals of the Royal Agricultural Society; the establishment of the department of science with its school of mines under the Board of Trade; the improvement which is to be expected under the action of the charity commissioners in the system of our old grammar schools; the spontaneous action of our old universities, not superseded, but facilitated and stimulated by Parliamentary interposition;—these and such like changes which are taking place, partly within the bosom of society itself, and partly by the action of Government, will shortly provide such means of scientific education, although not systematized with the exactness of continental organization, as will, after our rough-English fashion, adequately provide for all our wants in that respect, and give us no cause to lament over any considerable deficiencies in practical result. Still, however, in regard to science, the president avowed his belief that there is one great deficiency; for often may it be said of science, as it was said satirically of virtue by the poet, *laudatur et alget*—"It is praised and starves." The man of science may not desire to live luxuriously; he may not, nor ought he, desire to rival his neighbors in the follies of equipage and ostentation, which are often, indeed, rather a burden imposed by the customs of society than an advantage or even a gratification to the parties themselves; but he must live, and for the sake of science itself he ought to be able to live free from those anxious cares for the present and the future, or from the calls of a profession which often beset and burden his laborious career. Why was our Dalton compelled to waste the powers of such an intellect on private teaching? As a teacher, a physician, or a clergyman, or more rarely as a partner in a profitable patent, such a man may earn a competence, and give to science the hours which can be spared from his other avocations; and it is indeed astonishing what results have been the produce of these leavings of a laborious life—these leisure hours if so they may be called—of men who are engaged in arduous duties of another kind. But this ought not to be; and the noble earl expressed confidence that it must give way before the extended cultivation of science itself. The means of occupation in connection with our schools, and our colleges, and our examinations will increase; and he could not but hope that a grateful country would insist upon her benefactors in science receiving a more liberal share of her bounty than has hitherto been allotted them. In conclusion, the president, assuming for a moment the character of a representative of Liverpool, welcomed the British Association on their, its second meeting there. There was no place which could do more for science if she pleased; none had opportunities so extensive of becoming, by her ships and her commercial agencies, by her enterprising spirit and her connection with every soil and climate, the missionary of science—perhaps he should rather say, the importer of the raw material of facts and observations, the exporter of the manufactured results arising from their scientific discussion. There was no town which owed more to science: without science could her vessels stir, without danger, out of sight of land, or walk the waters independent of wind or tide? Without science, would they have docks to shelter them, railroads to bring their produce to the docks, telegraphs to announce their movements, manufactures to freight them to distant lands? He did not believe that Liverpool was insensible to her obligations. That magnificent reception was one evidence of the feeling; but a still better was to be found in her liberal support of such institutions as her public libraries and museums, as her collegiate institutions and her mechanics' institute, and, above all, of her magnificent observatory.

The business of the various sections was continued from day to day, and we select such parts as seem most likely to interest American readers.

LUMINOUS METEORS.

Professor POWELL read his report on the subject of luminous meteors, being a continuation of his report submitted at the last meeting of the association. The learned professor stated that, owing to the circumstance that so little was really known at present on the subject of these meteors, the best and safest course to adopt was to endeavor to accumulate the observations upon the appearances presented by those very problematical bodies, so that in time we might arrive at something like a classification of them, and thus in some degree ascertain their cause. He had been furnished by several scientific friends with catalogues of the meteors observed by them during the past year. A great many were observed on the 17th of October, but the only remarkable one was a meteor catalogued by Mr. Lowe as having been observed near Nottingham by himself on the 28th October, and in various parts of the kingdom by other parties. Its movement was perpendicularly downwards, inclining to the east. It was first seen in a circular body, being accompanied by streams of light. It then increased in size to near the dimensions of the sun's diameter, and finally burst into parts, with an explosion, black fragments, some of which were subsequently found, being noticed to fall. Professor Powell briefly referred to the difference of opinion existing

among the continental scientific men on the subject of periodical meteors—some alleging that those meteors were every year decreasing and that they were near extinction; others contending that there was no evidence of such diminution. To neither of those theories did he commit himself; but the controversy showed how accurately the appearance of those meteors were observed, and was a guarantee that the question would sooner or later be satisfactorily determined.

Mr. MOSES HOLDEN said he had been observing meteors for upwards of sixty years. In his opinion the meteors occurring periodically in November and August were not so large in quantity as they were some years ago. He held an opinion, which was first started by continental astronomers, that there was formerly a body moving between Mars and Jupiter; in fact, there was a space for one and not for more; but now there were twenty-eight bodies found moving in that space, and that when this body burst, the fragments formed the planets now found in that space. The smaller bodies would not be capable by their projectile force to keep their distance from the sun, and he thought that in a few years they would completely disappear; that they would first approach Venus and then Mercury, and ultimately fall upon the sun.

The startling theory of the honorable gentleman did not appear to create many converts among the audience, who appeared rather to favor the safer course proposed by Professor Powell, that of collecting facts rather than forming crude theories.

VARIATION OF THE MAGNETIC NEEDLE AT LIVERPOOL.

Sir JOHN ROSS, the able Arctic navigator, read a short paper on the "Variation of the Needle in the Port of Liverpool," a subject of much interest not merely to Liverpool itself but to the whole shipping interest of the United Kingdom, inasmuch as the proved existence of a variation of the needle in Liverpool ought to lead to a careful examination of other parts of the kingdom, with a view of ascertaining whether any similar variation from the laws of polar and magnetic attraction could be detected. Sir J. Ross stated that ever since the year 1799, when his attention was first directed to the subject of the deviation of the magnetic needle, he had lost no opportunity of making observations in many parts of the globe on the interesting phenomena of magnetic attraction, his attention had been called to the frequent losses of ships, consequent on the fallacious system adopted by the Admiralty called "adjusting the compasses," at Gravesend and other places; and after the loss of the Birkenhead he felt it his duty to publish a pamphlet, which, although dedicated by permission to the First Lord of the Admiralty, did not at once obtain their lordships' approbation, inasmuch as it exposed the absurdity of the system then in practice under the superintendence of the naval officer attached to the Admiralty. Ultimately, after some correspondence on the subject, his assertions were found to be correct; the officer of superintendent of compasses was abolished, and circulars were issued by the Admiralty, not only ordering a monthly examination of the deviations, but that such observations should be instituted at every change of the ship's position, and on every circumstance which was known or supposed to affect the ship's deviation, or local attraction—a regulation which was now admitted to be of infinite service. But his attention had been for some time drawn to the fact that ships sailing from the port of Liverpool, after having been swung in the Mersey to obtain the amount of deviation, or as it was called "to have their compasses adjusted," that immediately on their proceeding on their voyage it was found that the deviation observed in the Mersey was incorrect, and there had been lamentable instances of shipwrecks in consequence. It had occurred to him that this untoward circumstance was very easily explained. The fact was, that the Mersey was not a locality eligible for ascertaining the true deviation of the magnetic needle, the ships being in a position between large establishments, in which masses of iron were deposited which must have an influence on the magnetic needle during the revolution of swinging the ship, while the embarkation of passengers with their luggage, or anything else, subsequent to that process, could not but have the effect of producing a false and dangerous result to the observations. He proposed to provide a remedy for the evil by affording the captain of each ship an opportunity of verifying his compasses by means of beacons of different colors placed in various parts of the Channel. All the posts or beacons denoting the true north or south bearing, and others denoting the magnetic meridian to be painted of different colors; the former, or the true magnet, should be red, while the latter, showing the magnetic, should be chequered. Great Orme's Head and Holyhead should have beacons placed on them, which would be serviceable to ships, both outward and homeward bound.

The Rev. Dr. SCORESBY observed that the suggestions contained in the paper were in the highest degree deserving of consideration, as in his opinion the remedies proposed were well calculated to accomplish the end in view.

LUNAR VOLCANIC CRATERS.

Professor Nasmyth, in a paper on this subject, stated that with the aid of a very powerful glass, he had been enabled to pursue his

researches on the surface of the moon with great success; and although he did not consider that he had as yet made more than a first step, yet he hoped, in the end, to arrive at some important conclusions, and animated by this hope he had taken the moon under his especial care. He directed the attention of the audience to a very elaborately-constructed model of one large and several minor craters, as shown on the moon's surface by a telescope, and also to a large drawing, very carefully elaborated, giving correct representations. With respect to the model, he had found that there were certain features in the craters represented there, which had surprised himself. When these objects were seen in the telescope, they invariably threw out a more luminous appearance than the rest of the moon's surface; and he could have shewn them, had the building afforded him the aid of the sun's rays, that a similar radiancy was reflected from the model. With respect to the formation of these craters, the volcanic matter, thrown up, as it is supposed, from a central point, possesses such force of projection, and is so acted upon by the motion of the planet, that it is spread for a considerable distance round, forming a ring, with occasionally concentric circles within it, the centre being a plane surface. The point from which such matter has been thrown, is generally surmounted by an apex, of greater or smaller dimensions, according to the period occupied in the transition from an active to an exhausted state. To give an idea of the variableness of the volcanic power, he had found that the diameter of these craters varied, in extent, from a quarter of a mile to a hundred and twenty miles. The sketch produced to the meeting, represented a crater forty miles in diameter; and it was a remarkable fact that volcanoes in the moon were considerably larger than those in the earth. He attributed the highly volcanic character of the moon's surface, and the greater intensity of the volcanic power, to the shorter space of time allowed for the crustation of the outer surface of that planet.

Professor Phillips said that although he could not boast either of the possession of so powerful and excellent an instrument as the Professor had been favored with, his skill in using it, or the power of transferring to paper his observations in the admirable manner shown in the drawing before them, still, even with an inferior glass, it was remarkable with what accuracy objects upon the moon could be traced. The surface of that planet was very different from that of the earth. There was nothing to be observed upon it showing the existence of water, although he had himself seen signs — chasms and beds, as if formed by mountain-streams — which led him to think that watery action had, at some period, existed. No proofs of the present existence of an atmosphere had yet been discovered; yet such atmosphere might have previously existed, as well as oceans.

Some questions were asked Dr. Lyell respecting the absence of water and atmosphere in the moon, and Professor Hopkins addressed the Section at some length, contending, among other things, that it was not sufficient to have negative evidence on the subject.

Professor Phillips, in reply to these and other gentlemen, remarked that with respect to the absence of water in the moon, he was so convinced himself, that he considered it a sort of heresy to treat of water in connection with the moon at all. And there was evidence which satisfied him of the absence also of any perceptible atmosphere. He had frequently watched different planets passing behind the moon, or the moon passing them. There was a total obscuration the instant that the disc of the latter touched the planet. He could imagine no better measure of a moment of time than such obscuration, which would not take place if the moon was surrounded by an atmosphere. The same evidence was to be derived by observing an eclipse of the moon. Its outline was complete from first to last.

THE ESQUIMAUX NATIVES.

Mr. Cull, Secretary of the Ethnological Society, gave a description of three Esquimaux, lately exhibited in London. They were brought from Kimecksoke, Cumberland Straits, by the surgeon of a Hull whale ship. They arrived at this country in October last. They were Harkbah, aged eighteen; his wife, Tackalicktov, aged sixteen; and a boy, Harkaluckjoe, aged eight. Harkbah was married when sixteen years old, his wife being then only fourteen. They were visited by the Ethnological Society in February. The man was five feet one inch; his wife, three feet ten and a half inches; and the boy, three feet nine inches. In consequence of their early maturity, the Esquimaux appeared older than they really were, and the result was that they came to an old age soon after forty, and few ever lived to reach fifty. Facts were brought forward to show that the Esquimaux did not reach the same duration of human life as the people of Iceland and other northern nations, arising from poor food, deficiency of clothing, want of cleanliness, and the other physical circumstances by which they were surrounded. It had been said by many writers on the subject, that the Esquimaux could not enumerate higher than ten, and most of them not so high; though from his (Dr. Cull's) examination of those exhibited in London he had obtained numbers from one of them up to thirty; still, however, their language was of such a character that they could not make any progress in arithmetical knowledge. Dr

Cull submitted some examples of the Esquimaux language, and contrasted them with the English, offering some critical observations in reference to the limited capacity of the former in comparison with the languages of civilized nations. He added that the Esquimaux, notwithstanding the privations they endure in their own country, had no desire to transfer themselves to any other; and those exhibited in London expressed a wish to return to their homes, which was granted.

Dr. Conolly offered some observations, in which he suggested that such people as the Bosjesmans and others of a similar race could not be considered as in the lowest scale of human beings. A year or two ago, two miserable little idiots were exhibited in this country, said to be specimens of a nation never seen or heard of before. They had no proper use of their limbs; they could not speak a single word, and had no capacity for the use of language. The result of the exhibition was the realization of a large sum of money; though he hoped that what had been done by that Society would be such as to make a similar fraudulent exhibition impossible at any future time. There was another exhibition of two children from the extreme south of Africa, called the Earthmen, who had an aptitude for learning, and could have acquired almost anything. When he saw people brought here from the extreme south as well as the north, and treated almost like animals, and when he considered that such beings had an organization which might be improved, it became a question whether this nation did all it could for them; and whether they could not do more for those who, he could not doubt, in future ages, might form an important part in the history of our globe.

To hear the discourse of Professor Owen on the subject of anthropomorphous, or man-like apes, and their relation to the human species, the small concert-room in St. George's Hall, where the address was delivered, was crowded to excess. The arguments founded upon osteological and anatomical facts, which the learned professor adduced for the purpose of proving the perfect distinctness of species between man and animals of the highest group of quadrumana, were illustrated by a series of anatomical sketches and crania of man, the chimpanzee, and the orang-otang. The quiet but withal irresistible mode in which the professor demolished the theories of those who, confounding "gradation" with "development," have recently revived a transitional or development theory, the germs of which were enunciated by Lord Monboddo, was received with much applause; and his arguments, founded upon the structure of the vertebrate, the crania, and, above all, upon the development of the dental series in both man and other animals, against the possibility of any transmutation of species, were logical and conclusive. Subjoined is an abstract of the interesting remarks of the professor.

THE ANTHROPOMORPHOUS APES.

Professor Owen commenced his discourse by defining the known species of those large tailless apes which form the highest group of the order of quadrumana, and consequently made the nearest approach to man. He then determined the true zoological characters of the known orangs and chimpanzees as manifested by adult specimens; pointed out the relative proximity of the orangs and chimpanzees to the human species; and indicated the leading distinctions that separate the most anthropoid of those apes from man. The professor then entered upon the subject of the varieties of the human species, and defined the degree in which the races differed from each other in color, stature, and modifications of the skeleton. He entered upon a disquisition of the causes of these varieties, and proceeded to examine how far any of the known causes which modify specific characters could have operated so as to produce in the chimpanzees or orangs a nearer approach to the human character than they actually present. He pointed out some characters of the skeleton of the ape, such as the great superorbital ridge in the gorilla ape, which could not have been produced by the habitual action of muscles, or by any other known influence which, operating upon successive generations, produced change in the forms and proportions of bones. The equable length of the human teeth, the concomitant absence of any interval in the dental series, and of any sexual differrence to the development of particular teeth, were affirmed to be primitive and unalterable specific peculiarties of man. Teeth, at least such as consisted of the ordinary dentine of mammals, were not organized so as to be influenced in their growth by the action of neighboring muscles; pressure upon their bony sockets might affect the direction of their growth after they were protruded, but not the specific proportions and form of the crowns of teeth of limited and determinate growth. The crown of the great canine tooth of the male Troglodytes gorilla, a large African ape, began to be calcified when its diet was precisely the same as in the female, and when both sexes derived their sustenance from the mother's milk. Its growth proceeded and was almost completed before the sexual development had advanced so as to establish those differences of habits, of force, and of muscular exercise, which afterwards characterized the two sexes. The whole crown of the great canine tooth was, in fact, calcified before it cut the gum or displaced its small desiduous predecessor; the weapon was prepared prior to the development of the forces by which it was to be weilded; it was

therefore a structure foreordained, a predetermined character of the chimpanzee, by which it was made physically superior to man; and one could as little conceive its development to be a result of external stimulus, or as being influenced by the muscular actions, as the development of the stomach, the testes, or the ovaria. There was the same kind of difficulty in accounting for the distinctive characters of the different species of the orangs and the chimpanzees, as for those more marked distinctions that removed both kinds of apes from them. And, with regard to the number of the known species, it was not without interest to observe that, as the generic form of the quadrumana approached the bimanous order, they were represented by fewer species. The professor then proceeded to demonstrate the unity of the human species by the constancy of those osteological and dental characters to which attention had been more particularly directed in the investigation of the corresponding characters in the higher quadrumana. Man was the sole species of his genus, the sole representative of his order; he had no nearer physical relations with the brute kind than those which arose out of the characters that linked together the great group of placental mammalia, call "unguiculata." In conclusion the professor briefly recounted the facts at present satisfactorily ascertained respecting the comparative antiquity of the quadrumana and of man upon the surface of the earth. At the time of the demise of Cuvier, in 1832, no evidence had been obtained of fossil quadrumana, and the baron supposed that both these and the bimana were of recent introduction. Soon after the loss of that great reconstructor of extinct species, evidence with regard to the fossil quadrumana was obtained from different quarters. In the oldest tertiary deposits in Suffolk, specimens of jaws and teeth were found, that unmistakably indicated the former existence of a species of monkey of the genus Macacus (Macacus cocenus.) About the same time, the tertiary deposits from the Himalayan mountains gave further evidence of the quadrumana; jaws, astragali, and some other parts of the skeleton having been found completely petrified, and referable to the genus called Semnopithecus, which was now restricted to the Asiatic continent. Dr. Lund discovered in Brizil fossil remains of an extinct platyrhine monkey, surpassing any known cebus or mycetes in size similar to the platyrhines which were now peculiar in South America. Lastly, in the middle tertiary series in the south of France, was discovered a fragment of the lower jaw, proving at that period some species of the long-armed ape (Hylobates) must have existed. But no fossil human remains had been found in the regularly deposited layers of any of the divisions of the tertiary series. Human bones had been found in doubtful positions, geologically considered, such as deserted mines and caves in the detritus at the bottom of cliffs, but never in tranquil undisturbed deposits, participating in the mineral characters of the undoubted fossils of those deposits, the petrified negro skeletons in the calcareous concretes of Guadaloupe being undoubtedly of comparatively recent origin. Thus, therefore, in reference both to the unity of the human species, and to the fact of man being the latest, as he was the highest, of all animal forms upon our planet, the interpretations of God's works coincided with what had been revealed to us as to our own origin and zoological relations in His Word. Of the nature of the creative acts by which the successive races of animals were called into being we were ignorant. But this we knew, that, as the evidence of unity of plan testified to the oneness of the Creator, so the modifications of the plan for different modes of existence illustrated the benificence of the designer. Those structures, moreover, which were at present incomprehensible as adaptations to a special end, were made comprehensible on a higher principle, and a final purpose was gained in relation to human intelligence; for, in the instances where the analogy of humanly invented machines failed to explain the structure of a divinely created organ, such organ did not exist in vain, if its truer comprehension in relation to the divine idea led rational beings to a better conception of their own origin and Creator.

A vote of thanks was moved to Professor Owen by Professor Sedgwick, seconded by his Grace the Archbishop of Dublin, and carried by acclamation.

THE LUNAR MOUNTAIN GASSENDI.

Professor Phillips offered some remarks upon the famous Gassendi mountain, so conspicuous on the surface of the moon, and the results of some experiments made to obtain accurate photographs of the moon's surface. Nothing, he said, which the committee of the association could show upon the subject was to be compared with the results that had been obtained by the voluntary exertions of the photographers of Liverpool. The learned gentleman then proceeded to describe that tract of the moon which had been more particularly committed to him to survey, and which contained the crater of Plato. He illustrated his observations by a very beautiful drawing of this portion of the moon's surface by Mr. Nasmyth, and observed that daily experience showed that the more their telescopic power was increased the less circular appeared the lunar craters, and the less smooth the surface of the moon. All was sharp and irritated—a perfect representation of its past history which was marvellous to see. On the much mooted

question as to there being traces of the action of water on the surface of the moon as now presented to us, the professor said that at one time he believed that there was no trace of water to be seen, but he confessed that more recent observations, particularly those made with Lord Rosse's telescope, shook his belief in that opinion.

Some communications were received from Professor Challis and Professor Piazzi, also on the subject of lunar mountains.

ARCTIC AND ANTARCTIC CURRENTS.

An interesting paper on the subject of arctic and and antarctic currents, in connection with the expedition of Sir John Franklin, was read by Mr. Findlay. The author commenced his remarks by a description of the direction taken by the various and winding currents of the Arctic and Antarctic Seas, with a view to show how they acted upon each other, and influenced those in other portions of the globe as well as the climates of different countries. The currents and circumstances of the Antarctic Sea were widely different from those of the Arctic. The South Pole, as far as present discoveries went, was surrounded by barriers of impenetrable ice, forming a wide area, which was subjected to no oceanic influence. From this icy circle the currents were thrown off in every direction; and in the summer season large floes of ice were broken from the main body and borne away into other seas, a portion of them taking a direction towards the North Pole. Had that pole exhibited the same features observed at the south, it must long ago have been entirely frozen up and equally impenetrable which result must have gradually extended itself over those countries bordering on the Arctic ocean, by which it is surrounded. The condition of the North Pole, however, was operated upon by various circumstances. It was an undoubted fact that a large area round that pole was composed of water—perhaps the whole; but with respect to the South Pole it might, for anything we could learn, be principally land heaped up with ice of the growth of centuries, and not sensibly affected, except on its outer rim, by the warm currents of the tropical seas. The North Pole, however, was affected by warm currents running from the Gulf of Mexico up the Atlantic, whilst another similar current was continually directed towards it along the coast of Asia, and entering the ice field through Behring's Straits. In proof of the direction and influence of this latter current, Mr. Findlay remarked upon the quantity of drift which it brought with it and deposited upon the northern shores of the American continent, whilst none were found upon the shores on the other side of the Straits. The effect of these warm currents flowing constantly over portions of the Polar Sea, from a northerly as well as a southerly direction, had kept open its navigation pretty nearly to its present extent; and they influence, too, very materially the currents observed in other seas. The lecturer entered into a number of explanations of the phenomena of currents, which he illustrated by very elaborately drawn diagrams and maps, and was listened to throughout with great interest. Having concluded what may be considered the main body of his address, he proceeded in a supplementary paper to apply the principles and facts which he had laid down to the case of Sir John Franklin. He said he had come to Liverpool unprepared to enter into this inquiry, and would not treat it at any length, as we might soon expect to learn the result of the exploring expedition which had been sent out. There was one subject which he must touch upon at the outset of his inquiry. In 1851, it would be remembered, a report gained circulutaion that two ships had been passed on an iceberg off the coast of Newfoundland, by the brig Renovation. Their first step must be to determine, if possible, the truth of this story, and their next to ascertain the probability which exists of Sir John, if these ships were his, and were abandoned, being able to find his way to any region in which subsistence might be found, until he and his crew could meet with an opportunity of reaching home. In the first place, a strict examination was made by Captain Ommaney and others, of the parties who had seen the ships on an iceberg; and their testimony was not shaken. They concurred in stating that they saw two vessels, one about 500 tons, and the other 300, lying high and dry upon an iceberg. This description applies pretty closely to Sir John Franklin's ships. The evidence was strengthened by its being taken from the witnesses, who since the occurrence was made known, had spread themselves over different quarters of the world, and whose accounts, nevertheless, coincided very perfectly. With respect to the probability of Sir John Franklin's being able to return home, and the question of his proceedings after leaving the ship, that was a mystery which he was unable to solve. He went through the Wellington Channel, and might have attempted to reach open sea, and been drifted back. This he might have attempted several times, with the same result, and finally taken to the ice, or to some land, and left his ships, which were quite strong enough to drift on the ice.

The Chairman said, with respect to Sir John Franklin, he himself had a strong impression that he might still be alive.

In answer to a question from the Chairman, as to whether, in case of Sir John having taken refuge on some land as far north as Spitzbergen, he could have found sustenance.

Dr. Scoresby stated, on his own knowledge, that on land as far north as 81 deg. there was abundant sustenance for animal life. His own opinion as to the vessels seen on an iceberg, being those of Sir John differed from the opinion expressed by the previous speaker. He thought they were whalers, of whom there were 50 or 60 missing over a course of some years, some of which might have been liberated by the parting of the ice. In reply to a further question, as to the character of Melville Island, he thought it was only one of a chain, upon some of which Sir John Franklin might have got, if he had been aided by a southerly wind. He had a strong hope of learning his fate from the expedition which had gone over the ice; and this hope was strengthened by the fact that there had been no search, until last year, in a direction likely to meet with Sir John.

Admiral Beechy fully coincided in the views of Mr. Findlay as to the course of the currents, but differed from the preceding speaker in thinking that Sir John Franklin would find in those northern seas sufficient sustenance for himself and crew. In the event of his having to abandon his ships, his first object would be to make the best of his way to Behring's Straits; and, whilst doing this, he could not have time to collect food. He himself tried the experiment once when in those seas with a party, and they could barely succeed with their guns in supporting themselves for three or four days. With the previous speakers, Admiral Beechy expressed himself satisfied that the navigation of the arctic seas was perfectly impracticable.

Sir John Ross gave some reports of his conversations with Sir John Franklin previous to his sailing, and detailed the rebuffs which he had himself met with at the Admiralty and elsewhere, when subsequently he had offered to bring his charts and the benefit of his experience before them, with a view to an attempt to rescue Sir John.

STEAM NAVIGATION.

Mr. JOHN SCOTT RUSSELL delivered an address on the progress of naval architecture and steam navigation, including a notice of the leviathan vessel building by him for the Eastern Steam Navigation Company. Mr. Russell commenced by observing that many of the great improvements which had taken place in the science of shipbuilding, during the last few years, would no doubt have taken place earlier but for the operation of the old tonnage law, the effect of which was, that the better a ship was built the larger the tax which was paid for her. About twenty years ago, the old tonnage law was done away with, and builders were allowed to build ships as they pleased; and it rather encouraged them to build better ships than bad ones. The first thing we desire is to make a ship carry as much as possible. The old Welsh coracle tells us the best shape that will do that, and if a ship could be built in that form, be safely and quickly navigated, and land her large cargo at the port of destination in reasonable time, undoubtedly she would be the best shaped ship we could have. But the restrictions of the old law compelled us to build long, narrow vessels; for, if we widened them even in the midships alone, they were taxed according to their greatest width. This compelled us to build a long, narrow, wall-sided ship, like a warehouse in the water. We thus got an unsafe ship; we now try to get a safe ship. Now, breadth was what was required to make a ship stand up. Perhaps you will say these long, narrow, straightsided ships were likely to tumble over. The old ship, the warehouse ship, did tumble over; and the only preventive for this bad habit was to put a great deal of what they called ballast in her bottom. Yes, there was another way of giving the old ship the quality of "stand-up-itiveness," as they might call it. They used to put round cylinders, like barrels, on her side, at the water-line, and these were called "bolsters." He remembered in that port, twenty years ago, having seen a considerable number of bolstered ships. Now, we put the bolsters inside the ship, and by increasing the breadth on the water-line, we make her what we call more "ship-shape." Thus we now get this quality of "stand-up-itiveness," or stability on the water.

Now, look at some of the new clippers, the beautiful American, and Scotch and English clippers, and take the old tubs, and you would see the new ships have that quality of stability; and, although they carried enormous masts and yards in comparison with the old tubs, they stood more upright in sailing down the Mersey. The next thing that we want after stability was to make a ship go where they wanted, rather a difficult thing with a vessel propelled by sails. They made the ship very sharp, gave her a great depth of keel, or what they called "hold on the water," and thus prevent a ship going to leeward. Now the old act charged an extra duty if a ship was built with a long keel to prevent her going to leeward, but allowed a deep angular piece to be put at the end of the keel to effect that object, which, of course, made the ship draw more water. The doing away with the old act removed these restrictions. The next matter was the great improvement which had been made in speed, and the researches of this association had had a vast influence in bringing about these improvements. When he learned to draw a ship, he was told to make her greatest breadth about one-third from the

bow, to give her a long tapering stern, and a bluff, duck-like bow, to enable her to stem the waves. All very nice and very pretty, but there was another authority to consult—the water.

Many geometrical shapes were tried as experiments, and nature gave us many hints, but the old law prevented us adopting any of those hints. They had had great difficulty in discovering the best shape for obtaining the greatest speed with the least resistance. The old bluff bow knocked the water away violently, but by giving the ship a long, hollow bow and comparatively short stern on the water-line, the water goes out of the way easily and gently, and the ship glides along rapidly. The shape of the vessel, on the water only, was thus directly altered, and instead of the greatest breadth being near the bow, it was now near the stern. This was the principle upon which the lines of the American clippers were built, and upon which all clipper ships should be constructed.

There was another important thing, and that was the discovery of the virtue of length. He was born and bred in the idea that the greatest possible speed of a steamer was nine statute miles an hour. We built short, bluff vessels, and put a great deal of power into them. He remembered one Admiralty vessel which had fifty-horse power. The engines were taken out, and machinery of seventy-horse power put in; but there was only an additional quarter knot gained in speed, while the water carried before her was greatly increased. This was a proof of the absurdity of the old system. Now to illustrate the necessity for length, especially in the bow. Twenty-four feet length of entrance would give eight miles an hour of speed, supposing the whole length to be fifty feet. If they wanted her to go sixteen miles an hour, they must give her nearly ninety-six feet of entrance. If they want twenty-four miles an hour, they must give her 206 feet of an entrance, and nearly 400 feet of total length. He believed they could not get a vessel to go sixteen miles an hour without a length of 180 feet. The instance of the Himalaya was a great proof of the advantage of length. She had upwards of 350 feet of it, and we had with her got the greatest speed out of the least power. The same thing was observable in the large American clipper ships. By adopting this principle, they could get the same speed with less canvas and less spars; and many who had gone the greatest lengths in the latter respects had found it out, and drawn back a little. He must be allowed to say, however, that, like everything appertaining to truth, this shape of vessel is old. It had been found out and lost again. The old London wherry was as perfectly built upon these lines as possible. In India they had discovered the same thing long ago, and they have the fastest boats of their class in the world, and the Turkish caique had the same form. The Spaniards had it also, and in the last war the Spanish vessels were the best we took. There was a very distinguished man in this neighborhood, Mr. Ashton Smith, and a no less distinguished builder, Mr. John Laird. These gentlemen early adopted the hollow line, and Mr. Smith, who was continually trying most expensive experiments with steam vessels, had an idea that the hollow line was good for something, and he had a vessel built which was the first to accomplish fifteen miles an hour.

The Americans made very early an experiment on their steamers by adding the low hollow bows to what were previously short ones. Besides Mr. Laird, Messrs. Vernon, Mr. Grantham, and other gentlemen adopted it, and Liverpool had contributed very fairly to the introduction of the new class of vessels. Mr. Petit Smith was to a great extent the means of introducing the screw among the vessels of the navy, but Liverpool was the first to send a screw vessel across the Atlantic.

Another important thing in the progress of naval architecture was the increased size of ships. A great deal has been said to this effect—"Oh! you are going too far, a great deal too far, in building such large ships." It was said that with size we could not obtain strength. He believed we might go too far with wooden ships, for it was difficult for a builder to obtain timbers of sufficiently large proportions to ensure strength; but he would show why the same objection did not apply to iron. Very large wooden ships had frequently broken to pieces because they were not built of sufficiently large pieces of wood. You could not, by fastening two small pieces of planking together, obtain the same quality or value of adhesiveness or stability as possessed by one single plank of large dimensions. This was not the case with iron. You could rivet and fasten iron together in a way that you could not do with wood. Mr. Fairbairn found out three ways of putting together iron so strongly that it would give way anywhere but at the seams. Another advantage of iron over wood was, that you could get iron plates now of any length, and build a large ship with the same number of plates that you could before build a small one.

Passing on to another part of his subject, Mr. Russell said the Eastern Steam Navigation Company got their charter for the purpose of improving upon the existing state of ocean steam navigation. The company consisted of a number of East India and Australian merchants. The first question they asked of ship-

builders was, "How can we make a ship go faster?" They were first told, "You must put more power into the ship;" but they found that alone would not pay, for several reasons; and at last Mr. Brunel drew out plans for the monster vessel they were now building. Mr. Brunel was the first to design a ship large enough to cross the Atlantic with regularity and speed, the Great Western, which was now performing services of 6,000 and 7,000 miles as efficiently as when she first came out. There were not wanting people who proclaimed that she would never reach America at all. He subsequently designed that leviathan wonder of ten years ago, the Great Britain. How many in Liverpool presaged a total failure for that noble vessel? Yet now she sailed from Liverpool, was owned in Liverpool, and Liverpool owners must say whether she paid or not. There was great credit due to the Cunard Company, who were bold enough to adopt the lines and dimensions of the Great Western, and built not one, but several ships as large as she, and whose next new boat, I have heard rumored, was to be nearly 400 feet in length. But he did not say you must build big ships; he was not an advocate for big ships when a little ship would do for the trade; and he believed that there were only one or two trades in which such a ship as that of the Eastern Company could be made to pay.

The great question between large and small ocean steamers was the question of coals. The small ship (or what we now called a large ship), before she could get round the world, had to call at half-a-dozen places for coal, and besides the detention, had to pay two or three freights on the coal added to its price at the pit's mouth. The proposed ship would carry her own coal, 6,000 tons of goods, 500 to 600 first-class and 1,000 second-class passengers. It was by her enormous capacity that she would be made to pay, and they calculated that she would reach Australia in thirty-three days, or go round the world, without including her detention in Australia, in sixty-six days, less than the time it now takes to go one way. Her length would be 675 feet, her beam 83 feet, and her depth about 60 feet; she would have three decks for passengers, with more than eight feet between each. Now, St. George's Hall, in the interior, was 169 feet in length only, 77 feet in width, or six feet less than our new ship, and the height from the floor to the spring of the arch was about the same as this great leviathan.

Mr. Russell then went on to remark on the national idiosyncrasy which prevented us from at once adopting anything that was new and untried, contrasted with the progressive spirit displayed by the Americans. If there were two plans for doing the same thing, he said, we would rather try the old one than the new, even if the new was a little better; but Jonathan would rather try the new than the old one, even if they were both equal. In conclusion, he alluded to the advantages derived from the researches of the British Association; and, coupling it more immediately with the subject in hand, expressed his belief that all these advances in ships and the art of shipbuilding were benefiting all, and that from them we were reaping great social improvements. It was wrong to say that we were not to follow out one branch of truth for fear its discovery should clash with or upset another apparent branch of truth. We were not to say that these meetings eliminated mere theoretical dogmas. Truth was the same, wherever it was taught, and the only blunder we made was to call one thing science and the other thing practice.

Mr. Russell sat down amid much applause.

Mr. FAIRBAIRN said that he had at first doubted whether a ship of such an immense size as that referred to by Mr. Russell could be built of sufficient proportionate strength; but that having been favored by Mr. Brunel with a private view of the drawings and plans, he had no doubt as to her strength. When we could support a tube, like the Britannia bridge, a distance of 460 feet from one pier to the other, and carry a railway train rapidly through it, we need have no fear of the ship, which would have the water to support her whole length.

A member said Mr. Scott Russell had omitted to state another very important advantage of large vessels, the absence of motion from the waves, the dread of which prevented many, he might safely say hundreds of thousands, from embarking on board ships at all.

Mr. Russell said that was obvious; and in reply to another question, he stated that the new ship, when light, would draw about twenty feet of water; loaded, about thirty feet.

THE STEAM MORTAR.

Mr. JAMES NASMYTH, of Patricroft, then exhibited diagrams of his invention of a "steam mortar," being a plan for destroying the largest ships of war by means of an immense mortar fixed in the bow of a screw-boat, built in such a manner as only to require three men to manage her, and at the same time to be impervious to the shot of the enemy or the explosive force of the shell, which would be discharged into the ship's side by a percussion cap, immediately on the vessels coming into contact. Mr. Nasmyth said he thought the adoption of such a plan would put a stop to invasions by sea; and his terrible engine of war, which he described as a

"hellish contrivance," was only intended as a means of defence and not of aggression.

THE LOSS OF THE TAYLEUR AND THE ACTION OF COMPASSES IN IRON SHIPS.

The Rev. Dr. SCORESBY read an exceedingly interesting paper on the above subject, the object of which was twofold; first, to develop the principles upon which the magnetism in iron ships was distributed; and, secondly, to show the principles upon which, and the circumstances under which, changes of that distribution must of necessity take place. The melancholy case of the Tayleur was an example of the most impressive kind, illustrating the general bearings of this most important subject. The Tayleur was a new vessel, which left Liverpool for Australia, on her first voyage, on Thursday, the 19th of January, 1854, having on board about 458 passengers, in addition to her officers and crew, making a total of 528 persons. She was constructed of iron, and her registered tonnage was 1,979 tons. Her compasses (three adapted for guidance) were all "adjusted" by large and powerful magnets, on the principle suggested by the Astronomer Royal; and Mr. Grey, who had charge of the adjustment, reported that they were quite correct. She left the Mersey at noon, and was left by the pilot about seven or eight p. m. between Point Lynas and the Skerries. The weather was then tolerably fine, but a gale soon afterwards commenced, which continued on Friday, moderating, however, at intervals. The ship during this time was traversing mainly south of the Isle of Man, northwards of the Welsh coast and Holyhead. About four o'clock on Saturday morning she was near where the pilot had left her, and at eight o'clock, when the wind was again blowing a gale, it was ascertained, for the first time, that there was a material difference between the compasses. One of the compasses was near the helmsman, by which she was steered, the other was near the mizzenmast. Judging from the former of these, the captain was under the impression that he was sailing down almost mid-channel, that, at all events, he was in a good position for navigating the Irish Channel; while the other showed a difference of almost two points. Not knowing which of these was correct, the captain assumed, from certain indications which he had before noted, that the wheel compass was accurate, rather than the other. The result showed that neither was correct, that they had not only changed in their relations to each other during the short time the ship had been at sea, but that they were both largely in error as to the true direction of the vessel. At half-past eleven land was suddenly discovered on the lee-bow: all attempts to wear failed; the cables snapped in attempting to bring up; the ship drifted broadside on the rocks; 290 lives were lost; and of 100 females who were on board, only three escaped. Captain walker, who investigated the circumstances of the catastrophe, under the direction of the Board of Trade, reported his opinion that the loss was mainly to be attributed to the captain's supposition that the wheel compass was correct. The Liverpool local Marine Board, who also made an investigation at the request of the Board of Trade, after describing the means which had been adopted to secure the accurate adjustment of the compasses, went on to say in their report, "Notwithstanding these precautions it appears to the board that the Tayleur was brought into the dangerous position in which the wreck took place through a deviation of the compass, the cause of which they have been unable to determine. The board would call particular attention to the fact that numerous instances have been brought under their consideration of compasses having proved greatly in error, on board both of wood and iron ships, while navigating the Irish Channel, and which deviation is not accounted for by any theory at present." At the meeting of the British Association at Oxford, in 1847, he had called attention to the instability of the magnetic distribution in ships built of iron. It was a matter well known not only that iron became magnetic by virtue of the inductive influence of the earth, but that magnetism might be controlled, altered, or destroyed by mechanical action. Applying this knowledge to the case of iron ships, he pointed out that, in consequence of the percussive action to which the material was exposed while the ships were in course of construction, it became as intensely magnetic as it was possible for malleable iron to be. This augmented magnetism, however, was not permanent or fixed; but, under different circumstances, as to the relative deviations of the ship's magnetism and that of the earth, was easily changeable, and liable necessarily to be changed. The magnetism developed by mechanical violence could readily be neutralized, or changed, under a proper change of conditions, by other processes of mechanical violence. If a bar of iron magnetized by hammering were held in the reverse direction from that in which the magnetism had been developed, and again hammered, the polarity would not only be altered, but reversed. The result of another experiment which he had made with elongated plates of iron, to elucidate the phenomena of mechanical vibrations or violence, had been still more remarkable. If a couple of iron plates were laid together, it was found, when their condition was neutral, that held within two or three inches of a compass, horizontally east and west, there was no action whatever on the needle, but holding the plates upright

and bending them, or merely giving them a vibratory shake, and then presenting them as before to the compass, the iron was found to have become very strongly magnetic, the end which was downward repelling the north pole of the needle. Reversing the position of the plates, while held upright, if the vibratory action were repeated, the end formerly repelling would now be found to attract the north end of the pole. Repeating the vibratory action, while the plates were held horizontally, in an east and west line, the magnetism would be found, on bringing the plates to the test, to have disappeared, all action of the compass having gone. To meet probable objections he had made experiments in rolled iron plates, of the same kind as those of which ships were generally built; and had ascertained that the magnetism in those also was changeable and controllable like that in bar iron, under the requisite change of position, by vibratory or percussive action. He had also made experiments on a portion of a plate cut out of the side of a ship recently built, and the result of his observations was to establish the fact that besides the two denominations of magnetism ordinarily received, that of simple terrestrial induction, and that of permanent independent magnetism, there was another denomination corresponding with neither; not being absolutely controllable, like the former, by terrestrial influences, nor capable, like the latter, of resisting all kinds and modes of mechanical violence. To this third denomination he gave the name of retentive magnetism. The vibration of a ship in a heavy sea was sufficient to change the original magnetism developed and augmented in the course of her construction. A great deal depended on the position in which the ship had been built.

In the case of the Tayleur, when he first heard of the catastrophe, and read the evidence, he had stated to some friend at Torquay that he would venture to predict that she had been built with her head to the north. He had found, on inquiry, she had been built with her head nearly north-east. Here, then, were the precise circumstances for expecting a change in the ship's magnetic distribution. Having been built with her head to the north-east, she had a certain magnetic distribution, and when she began to strain, with her head to the south-west, that distribution was necessarily changed, and the first effect of it had been to alter the two compasses adjusted by fixed magnets. If the captain had been aware of the changes which might, and most probably would, take place when the ship began to strain in a different position from that in which she had been built—if he had known that the compasses might vary as much as two, three or even four points, he would have known, of course, that he must place no reliance upon them. It did not follow, however, that compasses were of no use because, under circumstances, they were liable to change. They ought to be, and were of great use for all that. But what he wished to impress upon the section was, that by attempting to adjust a transient by a permanent influence, they were only aggravating error; that captains ought always to bear in mind this liability of their compasses to mislead them two or three points: that they should be always looking after their correctors and verifications whenever the sun or a star was in sight; and that, by keeping a compass aloft as far as possible from the iron of the ship, they would always have a standard to which they would be able to refer, and which he, in his Arctic voyages, had always found to be correct.

Mr. J. T. Towson also read a paper on the subject of "The Inefficiency of the Aids of Science at present in connection with the Compasses of Iron Ships." In the name of the merchants and shipowners of Liverpool, he implored the attention of the section to this important subject, in the hope that if the members should respond to that appeal they would be able, before the next meeting, to confer the benefit they sought, not on their own account alone, nor in consideration of the vast amount of property involved, but for the sake of the vast amount of human life which was continually being jeopardized and lost. It was the general belief that the compasses of iron vessels, though aided by all the appliances which science at present afforded, and adjusted and managed by the most talented individuals whom owners could engage, were still unworthy of confidence. Dr. Scoresby had correctly arranged magnets in three classes—permanent, retentive, and inductive. The term retentive ought, in his opinion, to receive the sanction of the section. There was another source of error in connection with compasses, which deserved serious attention; he referred to the change that took place in the inductive magnetism of a ship when she heeled over. In 1846, Mr. Walker, the Queen's Harbormaster at Plymouth, obtained the permission of the Admiralty to examine the compasses of the Recruit when heeling, and the result was that the error from this cause was found to amount to nearly one-half the maximum error experienced when on an even beam. He believed that many of the errors in compasses on board both wood and iron ships, which neither the mariner nor the compass-adjuster could account for, were to be attributed to "heeling." Besides collateral means adopted for correcting the compass, there were two systems in use for that purpose—Captain Johnson's system of swinging the ship and tabulating the results, which was exclusively employed in the royal navy; and the

Astronomer Royal's method of compensating the compasses by means of magnets, which was almost exclusively resorted to in Liverpool. The objection to Captain Johnson's plan was that the corrections were liaple to be employed the wrong way. His experience in the examination of about two thousand masters of merchant vessels had convinced him of the soundness of that objection. There was a general tendency in practice to come to a wrong conclusion on the subject. The mariner knew that westerly deviations indicated that the north end of the needle was drawn to the west, and came to the conclusion that if his compass had a westerly deviation it must cause an object bearing north to appear westerly, whereas it would really appear easterly; and he had known the same mistake made on board ships in the royal navy. The most formidable objection to the Astronomer Royal's system was, that the magnetic poles of the compensating magnets were liable to change or to vary in their intensity. He had never met with a captain who could tell him the original deviation of his compass. In the case of the Tayleur, the deviation of her steering compass was 60 degrees, of her compass before the mizzenmast 40 degrees. In conclusion, Mr. Towson expressed his cordial concurrence in the observations made by Dr. Scoresby as to the necessity of incessant watchfulness, and the danger of implicit confidence, and reiterated his appeal to the section to give the subject its best consideration.

Colonel SABINE responded to the appeal, and assured Mr. Towson that the subject would have their best and anxious attention.

THE MEDICINAL LEECH AND ITS REPRODUCTION.

Mr. Richardson offered some remarks in this section "On the Medicinal Leech, and its Method of Reproduction." Mr. Richardson said that only two works had been written relative to the mode in which the leech was reproduced, and in both the facts had not been correctly stated. The egg of the leech was peculiar, and dissimilar to anything known in physiology. The egg appeared as large as the leech itself. The *ovum* was first surrounded with viscous matter, and then with a vegetable substance, giving it the appearance of a silkworm's cocoon. From this strange egg the young leeches issued in the form of threads; but it was not necessary that the parent-mother should assist at their incubation. He himself had hatched some dozens of leeches without the aid of the parent-leech, by merely following the necessary laws of nature. The leeches, with the cocoons, were exhibited, and excited much interest.

A PARTIAL CASE OF ALBINOISMUS.

Dr. Inman gave an account of a partial case of albinoismus which he had met with in one of the Liverpool hospitals: a black man, whose hands were covered with white spots, and whose legs had become as white as those of a white man. He was a native of Antigua, where his grandfather was a white man. While in China, about eighteen months ago, he was sadly afflicted with rheumatism, and treated, it is supposed, with mercury. Soon after, the white spots began to appear, first on his right hand and then on his left, gradually extending over his legs and arms; white spots, also, came upon his face in the cold weather, but in the summer season they became covered with a darker skin, which disappeared as the heat of the weather moderated. The man asked him (Dr. Inman) if he could not effectually blacken his skin again. Dr. Inman recommended walnut-juice, and on being informed that it would dye his skin at least a deep brown, he appeared much pleased. All these spots were quite free from disease, but more easily injured than the dark skin.

Dr. Carpenter said the case was by no means an unprecedented one. In America a genuine negro turned completely white, preserving as the only peculiarities of his origin the woolly hair and broad features of his race.

THE PROGRESS AND DIRECTION OF BRITISH EXPORTS, AND THE INFLUENCE THEREON OF FREE TRADE AND GOLD.

Mr. Valpy read a paper upon this subject, in which, referring to the annual "Statistical Abstract" recently published, for the first time, by the Government, he sketched the increase of the exports of home-produce from this country from 1840 to 1853, and showed that their total value was £877,299,000; that they rose from £51,406,000 in 1840 to £98,933,000 in 1853, or nearly 93 per cent. Those to foreign countries rose from £34,431,000 to £57,950,000 in the same period; and those to British Possessions abroad from £16,974,000 to £22,756,000. Further, in 1840, the proportion sent to European countries was 57 per cent., and in 1853 only 42 per cent. of the whole; while North America, which took 20 per cent. of the whole in 1840, took in 1853 no less than 33 per cent. To the United States alone our exports were, on an average of the years 1842—1845, only £23,623,000; and in the years 1850–53, not less than £69,481,000. The general conclusions suggested by the author may be stated thus:—That the average increase, during the period referred to in the paper, has been larger to foreign countries than to British Possessions; that our exports have averaged the proportions of about two-

thirds to foreign countries and one third to British Possessions; that with foreign countries, in different parts of the world, the order of increase has been to North America, South America, and Europe; while of Northern, Central, and Southern Europe, the rate of increase has been highest in the southern division; that with respect to British Possessions, the order of increase has been — first, Australia; second, Cape of Good Hope; third, North American colonies; and fourth, the East Indies; and, finally, that to the United States and other corn-growing countries, excepting only Russia, our exports have increased with our imports of corn.

THE EFFECTS OF GOOD AND BAD TIMES UPON COMMITTALS TO PRISON.

A paper "On the Effects of Good and Bad Times on the Commitments to Prison," was read by the Rev. John Clay, chaplain to the Preston House of Correction. The object of the paper was to show, by facts and calculations, that many of the opinions respecting the connection between "hard times" and crime were erroneous. From July, 1824, to July, 1825, was a year of general prosperity; but from July, 1825, to July, 1826, was a year of great distress; yet the felony-list for the latter year exhibited no augmentation. The author explained these facts by saying that high wages of the ignorant and uneducated poor were only a means of enabling them to gratify their strong propensity to intoxication, which was fatal to their comfort and character. That opinion, formed twenty-five years ago, he found was yearly being confirmed. The ten years ending June, 1844, were marked by several events greatly prejudicial to the moral and industrial welfare of the working-classes. Amongst other events was the spinners' strike of 1836–7, which threw 9,000 persons out of employ, and the Chartist riots of 1842. The new and efficient system of police and improved systems of prison discipline, though they had evidently produced good results, had not, in combination with prosperity of trade, lessened the number of offences. Out of ninety-six Chartist prisoners, sixty were unable to read, and thirty were ignorant of our Saviour's name. In a summary of committals for ten years, ending 1842, the reverend gentleman further showed that the year of greatest distress had not had the most committals. It was the same for the ten years ending June, 1854. There was, however, an increase of cases at the sessions, during the periods of strikes, for petty offences. These were invariably from amongst youths out of employ, which class of juvenile offenders increased ninety-two per cent., thus indicating most strongly that idleness was a greater cause of crime than poverty. In 1853, the prosperity of the country had seldom been equalled, but the wholesome lesson which the "hard times" might have been supposed to have taught was wholly lost; and thousands, who had nobly struggled against poverty, yielded to the temptations of high wages and vicious indulgences, and drunkenness became lamentably on the increase. Mr. Clay concluded his paper by saying that "bad times" might add a few cases to the sessions, but that "good times" greatly aggravated the number of summary convictions, and that this fact arose from the intemperance which high wages encouraged among the ignorant and debased. The above facts were of deep moral and social significance, and ought nationally to be felt as a grief and a reproach, demanding anxious attention. There must be something deeply wrong in the condition of the people, when that which should be for their wealth and benefit was to them an evil and a snare. It appeared to him that the great wrong was the want of a sound moral and religious instruction and of really useful knowledge, to enable the working-classes to avail themselves of those advantages within their power.

Mr. Hill, recorder of Birmingham, said he could bring forty years' experience to corroborate Mr. Clay. Crime was increasing. He must say, however, as Dr. Watts had said, with reference to idleness and slack times: — "Satan finds some mischief still for idle hands to do;" and idleness was provocative of crime.

Mr. David Buxton, principal of the Liverpool Deaf and Dumb Asylum, read a paper on "The Deaf and Dumb in the United Kingdom in 1851." The paper stated that there were between seventeen and eighteen thousand deaf and dumb in Great Britain. There were eleven schools for them, supported at an expense of £10,808. The first asylum was opened in London, in 1792.

VARIATION IN THE RATES OF CHRONOMETERS.

A paper of great interest, not merely to the port of Liverpool but to the whole of the shipping interest of the United Kingdom, was read in this section by Mr. JOHN HARTNUP, astronomer of the Liverpool Observatory. The object of the paper was to point out the sources and rate of the variation of chronometers. The following is an extract from the very interesting paper:—"At the meeting of the British Association in this town in 1837, a memorial from that body on the subject of a nautical observatory, was read before the town council, and referred to a special committee. It is stated in the memorial that among the various objects of interesting inquiry which have been brought before the British Association at their visit to this large and enterprising

commercial town is the condition of nautical astronomy in the merchant service—a science the application of which is decidedly the most important to mankind. The loss of life and property which is annually caused by a defective knowledge of this science would astonish, were it publicly known." After urging the importance of erecting a nautical observatory, the objects of such an establishment in a port like this are said to be the "accurate knowledge of Liverpool time and the care of chronometers while in port, so that a captain when he sails may receive his chronometer, sure both of its error and rate, which at present he cannot be. In this the committee have no intention of disparaging the chronometer makers of Liverpool; for it is stated that even in London the times obtained from celebrated makers have differed two minutes, and these two minutes might have caused a wreck." I have quoted the above extracts in order to show that hopes were entertained of an improvement being effected in navigation by having recourse to more accurate means of rating and testing the quality of chronometers employed in the merchant service. In accordance with the wishes expressed in the memorial, the corporation established a first-rate nautical observatory. This observatory has been now in operation, so far as regards the rating and testing of chronometers, for nearly ten years; and the very active part taken by the British Association in the recommendation of its establishment at its first visit to this town, leads me to hope that an equal degree of interest will be taken at this, its second visit, in the results of our labors. As regards the purely scientific department, the observations have for the most part been printed, and the liberality of the corporation in supplying the observatory with the magnificent instruments with which these observations were made, will, I doubt not, be highly appreciated by the distinguished visitors now in this town. There is, however, one department of the observatory to which public attention has not been directed as fully as, I think, its importance deserves. I allude to the rating and testing of chronometers; this being, moreover, the main object for which the observatory was established. In the memorial from which I have quoted, it is stated that a captain could not at that time obtain the correct error and rate of his chronometer in consequence of the time not being accurately known. Since the establishment of the observatory this deficiency has been removed; the arrangements for obtaining and carrying on the time are so complete that no sensible error can possibly arise in that way.

Having accomplished this object, our attention has been directed to further improvements, and the exquisite arrangements which we possess for testing timekeepers, have led us to the discovery of a source of error to which chronometers employed in the merchant service are subject, the importance of attending to which I will endeavor to explain. To enable the mariner to find his longitude at sea by the chronometer, he is furnished with its daily gain or loss, which is called its rate. The practice almost universally adopted has been to take for granted that this rate is uniform during the voyage. Chronometers are supposed to be compensated for the changes of temperature to which they must necessarily be exposed at sea in different latitudes, and captains are instructed to use the same rate in all climates. Now, we are prepared to show that, for chronometers employed in the merchant service, the average change of rate caused by changing the temperature from 40 to 60 degrees of Fahrenheit is seven seconds a day. Hence, if we ascertain the rate of a chronometer on shore with the most scrupulous degree of accuracy, in a temperature of 40 degrees, and this chronometer be afterwards taken to sea and exposed to a temperature of 60 degrees for the short period of eighteen days, the accumulated error on Greenwich time, according to the above-named average, will be upwards of two minutes, and an error of two minutes, it is stated in the memorial before referred to, might cause a wreck.

This variation of rate, from change of temperature, differs so much in different timekeepers that, without a trial, no idea can be formed of its amount in any particular chronometer. In order to show this more clearly, we have compiled from the records from the observatory, three tables; each table shows the change of rate for each of one hundred chronometers, caused by changing the temperature to the extent named in the respective headings. (A summary of the tabulated results was given by Mr. Hartnup.) I am not aware of the existence of any other establishment in the world, in which captains of merchant ships can obtain any information relative to the variation of the rates of their chronometers in different temperatures. Professional raters make themselves acquainted with the sea rates of the various chronometers which pass through their hands, and then adapt the shore rates to them.

The cause of this variation between the shore and sea rate is generally supposed not to be known. The duty of finding out the amount of variation by collecting and discussing the sea and shore rates is confided to the professional rater, and captains are kept in ignorance of its existence, so that a change of temperature may at any time be the cause of the chronometer deceiving both the rater and the captain. That serious disasters do occasionally occur from this cause, there cannot be a doubt; and it is quite certain that

they might be avoided, either by captains being made acquainted with the variation of rate peculiar to each of their chronometers, or by makers removing the fault by effecting a more perfect compensation. With respect to the former method, our records show that in an observatory provided with the necessary apparatus it is quite practicable to ascertain the variation of rate due to change of temperature, and to supply captains with the means of making the correction. With regard to the latter, the attention of chronometer makers has been directed to the subject for many years; numerous methods have been patented, professing to effect a more perfect compensation, and we find, by the published rates of the chronometers which are now sent to Greenwich annually for trial, that three-fourths of them are said to have some improvement intended to remove this serious defect. Now, what is the effect of all this upon chronometers employed in the merchant service? We need only to appeal to the results shown by the tables which I now present for an answer; they show how excessively those chronometers lose at the two extremes of temperature, and instead of three-fourths, as at Greenwich, having some improvement, we find the ordinary imperfect method of effecting the compensation almost universally had recourse to. The practice adopted by makers of applying their improvements to chronometers intended for the navy, and not applying them to those intended for the merchant service, has doubtless arisen from the knowledge that in the former they would be tested at the Greenwich Observatory previous to their being purchased, while in the latter captains and those about to purchase chronometers have, till lately, had no means of testing them, or making themselves acquainted with the advantage of any improvement in the compensation; and now that this great boon is offered them in Liverpool, through the liberality of the corporation, the advantage to be derived from it is so little understood that but comparatively few avail themselves of it. If some method could be devised of disseminating knowledge on this subject amongst captains, shipowners, and underwriters—all of whom are deeply interested in a quick and secure passage—surely some means would be taken for testing all chronometers in those temperatures to which ships are liable to be exposed at sea previous to their being placed in the hands of captains. By so doing, navigation would be greatly facilitated and rendered much more secure, and the best method of accomplishing this object is, I think, a subject well worthy of the consideration of the British Association; for it will be found that we are in possession of most undoubted evidence that the rates of chronometers now employed in the merchant service are so much affected by change of temperature as to render them very unsafe, and even dangerous instruments, in the hands of captains who are unacquainted with the facts which I have so imperfectly developed in this brief notice. We therefore entertain the hope that more efficient and systematic efforts will speedily be made to diffuse the requisite information amongst all those who are personally or otherwise interested in these important matters, which I have now presumed to bring under the notice of the British Association.

CORRECTION OF SHIPS' COMPASSES.

Mr. Archibald Smith communicated a paper entitled "A Graphic Method of correcting the Deviation of a Ship's Compass." "Poetic," perhaps, would have been a more correct title of the paper, inasmuch as the principal rules for the guidance of the captain to enable him, from a given magnetic course, to find the corresponding compass course, were versified, in order the more easily to admit of their being committed to memory. The rules were illustrated by a series of diagonal lines, alternately plain and dotted, the one representing the compass, the other the magnetic course. The value of the versified regulation:—

> From compass course, magnetic course to gain,
> Depart by dotted, and return by plain,

cannot be made sufficiently intelligible without the aid of the diagrams. The following lines, however, admit of general application, and will be readily understood:—

> At every port, where'er you roam,
> Your vessel should be swung;
> A ship that 's only swung at home,
> Her captain should be hung.

The attempt thus to make poetry the handmaid of science, and to diversify the monotony of "Wapping Old Stairs," and other time-honored airs by the introduction of nautical melodies in the correction of the deviation of the compass, is an attempt to popularize science, which, if it does not achieve, at all events deserves success.

VARIATION OF THE MAGNET IN CONNECTION WITH THE ADMIRALTY MANUAL.

Sir John Ross makes the following remarks in this section on the above subject:—It is with no less reluctance than concern that I feel it my duty to remark that the very elaborate article in the Admiralty Manual on the subject, is completely at variance with that on the same interesting subject by the Swedish Baron Wrede, which may be satisfactorily accounted for by the total disregard of solar and artificial light in the various observations which

have been made and published in the Admiralty Manual. While consequent on information I gave to Baron Wrede of the discovery I made, of artificial light having the power of amalgamation with magnetism, he totally excluded the light from his magnetic observatory with the exception of a subdued light at a considerable elevation vertical to the horizontal needle. While the arc was read off by a telescope at a distance of several yards from the instrument, and it being evident that the more deliberately the magnetic needle was suspended (as described in the Admiralty Manual), the more obnoxious it will be to the effect of artificial light in the operation of reading off the instrument, and which will fully account for the many discrepancies therein mentioned. And it is to be hoped that in future, due attention will be paid to the fact discovered by me, and since fully corroborated by Professor Tweedie, of which discovery the author of that article appears to have been totally ignorant. Baron Wrede will, in due time, publish his observations, which I am for obvious reasons not authorized to do, and they will no doubt be transmitted to the Astronomical Society, of which he is an honorary member, and whose talents are well known and appreciated. In proof of the effect of every description of light on the magnet, I may mention that during my last voyage in the Felix, when frozen in about 100 miles north of the magnetic pole, I concentrated the rays of the full moon on the magnetic needle, when I found it was five degrees attracted by it.

VARIATION OF THE COMPASS IN IRON SHIPS.

Colonel Sabine suggested that some person should be appointed at each port in the kingdom to go on board iron steamers before they sailed; who, if he should find that the place where the standard compass was placed in the ship would subject it to such deviation as to cause considerable risk to the safety of the ship, should change the place of that compass and fix it where it would be subject to the least amount of deviation. He wished to correct a mis-statement which had been made public, to the effect that the Admiralty had found this plan so inefficient that they had done away with the office of the superintendent who had been appointed by them to carry out this plan. Such was not the case. The Government had been most anxious to supply the place of Captain Johnson, who held that office, and had taken steps to do so.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF IODINE.

Dr. Macadam gave the results of some experiments made by him for the purpose ascertaining the presence of iodine in the mineral, vegetable, and animal kingdoms. He stated that in an experiment where 100,000 cubic feet of air were analyzed, and one recently undertaken by him, where 50 gallons of rain water were examined, having given a negative result, he was inclined to think that other and more carefully conducted experiments were required before the statement advanced by Chatin—that an appreciable amount of iodine was present in our atmosphere—could be admitted. The author had found a trace of iodine in 100 gallons of water used for domestic purposes in Edinburgh, so also in about 60 land plants, some of which were edible, such as potatoes, wheat, barley, oats, beans, peas, pears, apples, and gooseberries. The presence of iodine in the food of animals necessitated its introduction into the system of the animal, and for a time at least its retention there, and he accordingly found iodine in the cat, the dog, the pig, the cow, the horse, and man. No direct experiments had been made on soils, but considering that iodine was uniformly a constituent of lime-stone rocks, and that these were always present in and applied to soils, he believed that the latter must, to a greater or less extent, contain iodine. A second paper read by Dr. Macadam was on the presence of load in hydrochloric and nitric acids. He had, in the course of some analyses, made with the view of determining, if possible, the presence of lead in animal organisms, seen reason to suspect that the acids employed by him might contain lead. On testing these, which were the purest to be purchased of the manufacturers, small but very distinct indications of lead were obtained. In commercial or impure specimens of hydrolic and nitric acids, the lead was much more abundant. The importance of such a discovery in reference to searching for metallic poisons in organized tissues was so great, that he cautioned analytical chemists against the use of the acids for such purposes without previously testing them for lead.

After the reading of this paper, an interesting conversation ensued, in the course of which it was stated that a considerable portion of lead had been detected in snuff and curry, and one or two cases were named of parties who had been sufferers from this poisonous substance being introduced into the system by snuff-taking. The lead was not thought to be an admixture, but to be absorbed from the sheet lead in which curry and snuff are frequently packed.

THE EFFECT OF CYANIDE OF POTASSIUM ON INSECT LIFE.

Mr. Buckton read a paper "On the Application of Cyanide of Potassium to the Killing

of Insects for the Cabinet." He detailed the various modes at present in use for preparing insects, most of which appeared to inflict an unnecessary amount of pain, and did the work imperfectly. Amongst these were sulphuric and other acids, including the hydroceanic acid, which he described as tedious in its preparation. He had, after many experiments, tried cyanide of potassium with complete success. Twenty or thirty grains of this acid, placed in a glass jar fitted for the purpose with a brass cover, gave out a gas sufficient to kill, in a very short time, and with great certainty, not one insect, but a number proportionate to the size of the jar and quantity of the acid used. The effect was to produce at first intoxication. The insects turned over on their backs. A violent nervous action took place, and death occurred in about four minutes. Occasionally it was advisable to allow half an hour to elapse, in order to prevent the possibility of resuscitation.

The Chairman having remarked upon the desirableness of getting rid of the idea of cruelty as connected with zoological studies, a conversation ensued, in the course of which it was strongly maintained by Dr. Lankester that the lower animals and insects, from their conformation, were unsusceptible of pain or feeling. Dr. Laycock was not so certain as to their non-susceptibility of feeling, or rather of consciousness. It could be proved that they had no feeling of pain, but he thought that they had an enjoyment of pleasure.

FOUCAULT'S DEMONSTRATIONS OF THE ROTATION OF THE EARTH.

At the *soiree* in St. George's Hall, the greatest interest was excited by a series of demonstrations of a rotation of the earth, by M. Foucault. The name of this gentleman is already well known to the scientific world and to the general public in connection with his recent physical demonstrations of the movement of the earth by means of the pendulum. Following out these successful experiments, M. Foucault a few months since announced to the Académie des Sciences at Paris a series of new demonstrations on the same subject founded upon the fixity of a plane of revolution, and which were illustrated by some exquisitely adjusted mechanical apparatus, to which the ingenious inventor gave the name of the "Gyroscope." This latter class of experiments was last night explained by Professor Tyndall with admirable clearness and lucidity, M. Foucault himself adjusting and arranging the apparatus.

In order to obtain a visible or physical demonstration of the rotation of the earth upon its axis, one of two things would be necessary, either that the spectator should be removed from the earth's surface, or that some fixed and constant object should be found, which by its steadiness and immobility and freedom from the attraction of the earth's sphere should serve to mark its progress. The advantageous position first named is one which science may never hope to command, and with Archimedes, who desired a fulcrum upon which to place a lever that would move the world, we may vainly long for a "place outside" whence to view the movements of this mighty planet. The spectacle of a vast globe revolving upon its diurnal axis, and speeding on through the boundless realms of space upon its appointed way, as it rolls on catching hurried and imperfect glimpses of the huge mountain chains and vast oceans upon its surface, or, perhaps, the dim mist which overhangs some of earth's myriad-peopled cities, is a sight which mortal eyes may never hope to gaze upon. But if this stupendous body may not be witnessed from a position outside its surface, M. Foucault has provided the means by which the motion of the earth may be made evident and clearly distinguishable to the eye of man; and while in the one case the senses may be overwhelmed by the idea of the vast sphere rushing on in its orbit, and the mind become deeply impressed with the mighty power of that Being who first imparted to and continues the motions of these planetary bodies; on the other hand, in this series of delightful experiments, the spectator, as he witnesses the slow and almost imperceptible movement of the graduated scale which tells of the movement of the earth, cannot fail to look with greater reverence upon that genius which, implanted in the human mind, is thus enabled to illustrate some of the most mysterious of the laws which govern the movements of the universe.

THE KOH-I-NOOR DIAMOND.

Professor Tennant offered some very interesting remarks on the re-cutting of the Koh-i-noor diamond. The learned professor stated that at the Great Exhibition, in 1851, an opportunity was afforded, such as had never been previously enjoyed by the public, of studying the substance of a vast number of foreign valuable stones; and probably the Koh-i-noor diamond was the most attractive in that valuable collection. The rough manner in which that diamond had been cut, however, had disappointed many who looked upon it; when the sun shone upon it at noonday, the stone appeared peculiarly brilliant, but when the atmosphere was dull, it had merely the appearance of a lump of thick glass. This placed it in a very unfavorable position, and caused doubts to arise in the minds of some gentlemen as to its authenticity. This diamond originally belonged to Runjeet Singh, who usually wore it upon his left arm, according to the custom of eastern potentates; and the original mounting was now in the hands of her Majesty's jewellers. The stone perfectly agreed with the drawing which had been made of it by Miss Eden, and also with the account given of it by the Hon. W. G. Osborne, who had published a very interesting description of the court of Runjeet Singh, where the old man (who was blind and a cripple also) sat arrayed in a robe of simple white, wearing upon his arm the Koh-i-noor diamond, and surrounded by his eastern nobles. On special occasions, Runjeet Singh was in the habit of decorating his horse with this precious gem, together

with numerous other valuable stones, mounted upon various parts of his harness. All authentic accounts of the East proved that the nobles were in the habit of decorating their horses in this manner; and the horse of Runjeet Singh was decorated with diamonds valued at £300,000, the great Koh-i-noor being placed on the pummel of the saddle. Lord Auckland and his sister, the Hon. Miss Eden, had this diamond sent to them for inspection in the East Indies, and Miss Eden's drawings agreed with the appearance of the diamond on its arrival in this country. In 1852, subsequently to the Great Exhibition, he (Prof. Tennant) had inspected the diamond and laid before the Royal Society his views as to the best method of re-cutting it, so as to bring out its best qualities. In the account of this diamond by M. Trivernier, published in 1676, he stated the weight of the diamond to be 787 1-2 carats. Dr. Beek, of Ipswich, had published an account of a fragment of this diamond, now in Persia, which corresponded with the diamond when it arrived in England; for it first appeared as a white topaz, being so roughly cut. In 1852, he (Professor Tennant) had given in a report as to the cutting of the Koh-i-noor diamond, and after producing various models, her Majesty fixed upon the present form, by which the widest spread of brilliancy was obtained. When the diamond was exhibited at the Crystal Palace it weighed 186 carats and 1-16; its present weight, reduced by cutting, was 122 carats 3 qrs. and 1-16. The Persian diamond weighed 130 carats, and the great Russian diamond 193 carats. After giving a description of the method of cutting diamonds, and the plan adopted for cutting the Koh-i-noor, he observed that the late Duke of Wellington had been an interested spectator of the operation, and was a frequent visitor during its progress. It was finished in September, 1852, and occupied 38 days in cutting. Diamonds were usually reduced to one-half their weight in cutting; and he gave the exact weight of the Koh-i-noor, in order to correct various erroneous statements which had been published on the subject.

The finest diamond in France weighed 139 carats, and had cost £130,000; it was called the Regent, or Pitt diamond. The value of the Koh-i-noor was probably £83,232. The Marquis of Westminster possessed a diamond for which the East India Company had once been offered £30,000, as affirmed by Colonel Sykes, and yet this diamond, when submitted to public auction, fetched rather more than £7,000. He was sorry to find that so little attention had been paid to the means of testing diamonds, and instanced a ring which was recently purchased in Regent-street, London, for £200, which proved to be two pieces of rock crystal, with an intermediate insertion of colored glass. In many of our watering-places the gentry were imposed upon by parties selling pieces of glass, which they represented to be sapphires picked up on the beach.

In reply to a question,

Prof. Tennant said that most of the English jewellers had been accustomed to cut small stones; and it was not deemed advisable to permit any one to operate upon so valuable a diamond but those who had been experienced in cutting large gems.

Mr. Low inquired if it were true that the Koh-i-noor, after being exposed to the rays of the sun, retained its luminosity when put in a dark place? He wished to know whether this was a mere nursery tale or not.

Prof. Tennant observed that it did retain this luminous quality, or phosphorescence, as all diamonds did, for a few minutes, probably; smaller ones also possessed this property in proportion to their size and brilliancy. A lump of crystallized sugar also, exposed to the sun's rays, would show the same brilliant hues, if immediately afterwards placed in the dark, as a diamond.

SULPHUROUS ACID FROM THE CONSUMPTION OF COAL

Mr. Spence also read a paper "On the production of Sulphurous Acid Gas from the Consumption of Coal." He described the "smoke nuisance," which he considered anything but agreeable, as most people had a great dislike to a smoky atmosphere; but the question which arose was, whether the abolition of it might not have an evil tendency in a sanitary point of view. It was considered that carbon was a healthy agent, and its removal might leave bad gases to produce their evil effects upon the population, which the existence of carbon would remove. He instanced the smoke-consuming movement in Manchester, and observed that vegetation in the neighborhood was destroyed by the absence of carbon, causing the sulphur arising from the consumption of coal to pass into sulphurous acid gas, which was extremely pernicious.

This paper produced some discussion, at the conclusion of which Mr. Lowe observed that parties who did not admire smoke might obviate the inconvenience by consuming gas coke, as was done in the large hall where they had assembled.

LITERARY PURSUITS CONDUCIVE TO LONGEVITY.

Dr. Lankester read a paper, from the pen of Dr. Fowler, on a subject of much interest to persons engaged in literary and philosophical pursuits, inasmuch as it tended to show that these occupations were highly conducive to longevity. The argument of Dr. Fowler may be thus stated:

All the functions of the mind are affected by corresponding functions of the body, and it is by the circulation in the minute arteries of our organs, brain, senses, etc., that they are kept in a sensitive and active state. After the nerves of a frog's leg had been divided some weeks, he had found that its muscles contracted feebly when zinc and silver were in contact with the nerve and each other. But when he brushed the skin so as to produce a slight redness, both sensibility and contractibility were restored. Now, the effort of thinking had an effect on the blood vessels analogous to brushing, in so far as it accel-

erated the circulation of the blood through these vessels.

THE LOST TRIBES OF ISRAEL.

Mr. Kennedy communicated the following as the results of his researches into the interesting and much controverted question of the lost tribes of Israel:

That the number of those taken away in the different captivities had been much over-estimated, only the principal people having been made captive as hostages, with the men of war, and others most available as slaves. That the main body of the ten tribes was not taken away by the Assyrians, but were left in their ancient possessions, when they became again partially subjected to the kings of Judah. That the tribes that can be supposed to have been really removed were the Reubenites, the Gadites, with the half tribe of Manasseh, and that of Naphthali, who, being placed on the east of the Jordan, and on the north, were most exposed to the attacks of the enemy. That the greatest part of those who had been taken away to Babylon, or their descendants, and the descendants of those taken away by the Assyrians, returned to their ancient land. That while in Babylonia, Assyria, and other countries of their conquerors they could not be supposed to have lived apart by their tribes, so that in the space of 200 years and upwards those taken away must have lost almost every distinction of tribes, and thus have become prepared to form part of that restored nation which took the name of Jews from the principal tribe amongst them. That the tribe of Judah having been the most numerous, and their city of Jerusalem the centre round which the Israelites congregated, it follows, as a natural consequence, that their name would become the prevailing one. That the amalgamation, or union, into one people in all the Israelites, was in accordance with the predictions of the prophets.—That the remnant of the Israelites left in Babylonia and Assyria, though smaller in number than that portion which was restored to their ancient possessions, might yet have increased to an immense multitude in the 600 years which elapsed between the first restoration and the time of Josephus, but that the remnant left beyond the Euphrates cannot properly be considered to have been the representatives of the ten tribes, much less the entire body of the ten tribes.

That in the time of Josephus all distinctions of the other tribes having become lost, except those of Judah and Benjamin, he erroneously supposed they were the only tribes that had returned, and that the other ten tribes still remained beyond the Euphrates. That in any case the dream in Esdras, respecting the ten tribes having taken counsel among themselves and gone into a further country where never mankind dwelt, was a mere dream or vision, as it in reality professes to have been.

The writer concluded that if the above deductions and the arguments upon which they were founded were correct, it followed that the supposition of there being any people now existing as a separate people, representing the ten tribes, or any of them taken away by the Assyrians, was a groundless hallucination unworthy of the times in which it had obtained so extensive a credence.

"On the Physiology of Cells in relation to Consciousness and adaptive Movements." These phenomena, said Dr. Laycock, are variously interpreted in relation to consciousness. While on the one hand it was a firmly established opinion that vegetable organisms had no sensation, although they adapted themselves often with exquisite skill to external circumstances, of which Dr. Laycock adduced several examples; on the other, it was an equally fixed doctrine that the lower animal organisms (*e. g.*, insects) were as susceptible of pain as man himself. Now all these adaptive phenomena were manifested in the highest degree in that ultimate constituent of animated beings, the microscopic cell, whether the organism was a single cell only, or composed of definite groups of cells, or evolved from a primordeal cell.

There did not appear any ground for concluding that these cells were endowed with consciousness; it followed, therefore, that the whole of their adaptive phenomena were the result of a force inherent in them and essential to their existence, but distinct from conscious mind. The entire structure of the higher organisms, whether vegetable or animal, being evolved out of cells, and the aim of the combined vital activity being directed to the attainment of the same object as that aimed at in cell action, viz., the well-being and happiness of the individual, it follows that in them, as in cells, the vital activity thus adapted to a given end may also be wholly independent of will or of consciousness. Such, indeed, is the general doctrine as to plants and lower organisms. The question may, however, be looked at from another point of view, and it may be argued from analogy that they may possess a sense of pleasurable existence, inasmuch as such an endowment would be entirely compatible with that grand scheme of beneficial adaptation from which the whole phenomena of creation flow.—As to insects, experiments show that it is at least very doubtful whether they feel pain; while the infinite variety of instruments supplied to them that they may be enabled to minister to their own happiness, and the inherent skill which they display in the use of those instruments—a skill often beyond the art of man—might serve as affording some evidence that they have pleasure in their existence.

Dr. Laycock next proceeded to show that the nervous system was the co-ordinating apparatus for all these instruments, and that the cells of the vesicular neurine that constitute the ganglia of the nervous centres constitute the special seat of that inherent force by which the apparatus was put into action. He further added that the seat of will and of consciousness in vertebrata is almost universally acknowledged to be in the ganglia contained within the cranium, yet the headless trunk of a frog would leap away if irritated, or if thrown into water would swim away.

Hence the conclusion that the cells of the vesi-

cular ganglionic neurine act under given circumstances as adaptively and yet as unconsciously as those of the lowest forms of animal and vegetable life.

Dr. Laycock then extended these views to the cells constituting the vesicular neurine of the human brain, and argued both *a priori* and from observation of the doctrine, that their endowments and modes of action were at least not inferior to those of the vesicular neurine in insects. It followed therefore that they also might act adaptively and in accordance with their assigned functions independently of the will or the consciousness of the individual. To this automatic action (the link between man's spiritual nature and the external world), Dr. Laycock referred the phenomena of mesmerism, electro-biology, spirit-rapping, etc. He considered them to constitute a temporary derangement of the intellect through the organs, not essentially dissimilar from that observed in insanity, and expressed his conviction that the induction of them was not the harmless recreation generally supposed, but that it might lead and had led to injurious results.

From the Montreal Herald.

REMAINS OF SIR JOHN FRANKLIN AND HIS PARTY.

We are indebted to Sir George Simpson, Governor of the Hudson's Bay Territory, for the privilege of first publishing to the civilized world the at-length-ascertained fate of the noble, but ill-starred, Sir John Franklin, and his gallant company. Alas! that that fate should have been so sad; and that the problem which has so long occupied the thoughts and engaged the energies of the great navigator's countless friends and admirers, in Europe and America, should be solved by so painful, so distressing a narrative as is contained in the following letter, which only reached Sir George Simpson yesterday afternoon, it having been forwarded from York Factory, *via* Red River. Our own hopes of Sir John Franklin's restoration to the world had, we confess, long ceased; but who could have been prepared for the fearful reality—a miserable and lingering death, from literal starvation—possibly, as Dr. Rae conjectures, worse than starvation—on the frozen and desolate shores of the Arctic Ocean. But we shall not detain the reader by any reflections of ours from the perusal of Dr. Rae's intensely interesting narrative. We shall merely mention that York Factory is situated at the mouth of Hayes River, in Hudson's Bay, in about 56° N. L., 93° 8′ W. L.

Dr. Rae's letter to Sir George Simpson.

York Factory, 4th Aug., 1854.

My Dear Sir George: Your several letters, public and private, of dates 15th June and 1st December, 1853, and 13th and 16th June, 1854, were handed me on the 28th ultimo, on my reaching Churchill, and I rejoiced to learn that your health had benefited so much by your visit to the north.

Let me now allude to the Expedition affairs. I arrived here on the 31st ult. with my small party, in excellent health, but, I am sorry to say, without having effected our object. At the same time, information has been obtained and articles purchased from the natives, which places the fate of a portion, if not all the then survivors of Sir John Franklin's miserable party beyond a doubt—a fate the most deplorable—death from starvation, after having had recourse to cannibalism as a means of prolonging life.

I reached my old quarters at Repulse Bay, on the 15th of August, and preparations were immediately commenced for wintering. On the 1st September I explained to the men our position, the stock of provisions we had on hand (not more than three months' rations), and the prospects we had of getting more, etc., pointing out all the danger and difficulty of our position. All readily volunteered to remain, and our exertions to collect food and fuel went on with unabated energy. By the end of September, 109 deer, one musk ox, 52 braces of ptarmigan, and one seal had been shot, and the nets produced 190 salmon.

Of the larger animals above enumerated, 49 deer and the musk ox were shot by myself, 21 deer by Mistegan (the deer hunter), 14 by one of the men, nine by Ouligbuck, and 16 by the other four men. The migration of the deer terminated about the middle of October, and 25 more animals were added to our stock.

On the 28th of October the snow being sufficiently hard for building, we were happy to exchange our cold tents for the more comfortable shelter of the snow-house. The winter was very severe, but the temperature in our snow-huts was never so low as in my winter quarters of 1846–7. Up to the 12th January we had set nets under the ice in the lakes; the nets were taken up on that date, as they produced nothing.

On the 31st March my spring journey commenced; but in consequence of gales of wind, deep and soft snow, and foggy weather, we made but very little progress. We did not enter Pelly Bay until the 17th. At this place we met with Esquimaux, one of whom on being asked if he ever saw white people, replied in the negative, but said that a large party (at least 40 persons), had perished from want of food, some 10 or 12 days' journey to the westward. The substance of the information, obtained at various times and from various sources, was as follows:

In the spring, four winters past (spring, 1850), a party of white men, amounting to about forty, were seen travelling southward over the ice, and dragging a boat with them, by some Esquimaux who were killing seals on the north shore of King William's Land, which is a large island named Kei-ik-tak, by the Esquimaux. None of the party could speak the native language intelligibly; but by signs, the natives were made to understand that their ships or ship had been crushed by ice, and that the "whites" were now

going to where they expected to find deer to shoot. From the appearance of the men, all of whom, except one officer (chief), looked thin, and they were then supposed to be getting short of provisions, and they purchased a small seal from the natives.

At a later date, the same season, but previous to the disruption of the ice, the bodies of about thirty white persons were discovered on the continent, and five on an island near it, about a long day's journey (say 35 or 40 miles) to the N. W. of a large stream, which can be no other than Back's Great Fish River (named by the Esquimaux Out-koo-hi-ca-lik), as its description and that of the low shore in the neighborhood of Point Ogle and Montreal Island agree exactly with that of Sir George Back. Some of the bodies had been buried (probably those of the first victims of famine), some were in a tent or tents, others under a boat that had been turned over to form a shelter, and several lay scattered about in different directions. Of those found on the island, one was supposed to have been an officer, as he had a telescope strapped over his shoulder, and his double barrelled gun lay underneath him.

From the mutilated state of many of the corpses, and the contents of the kettles, it is evident that our miserable countrymen had been driven to the last resource—cannibalism—as a means of prolonging life.

There appears to have been an abundant stock of ammunition, as the powder was emptied in a heap on the ground by the natives, out of the kegs or cases containing it, and a quantity of ball and shot was found below high water mark, having been left on the ice close to the beach. There must have been a number of watches, telescopes, compasses, guns, (several double-barrelled), etc., all of which appear to have been broken up, as I saw pieces of these different articles with the Esquimaux, and, together with some silver spoons and forks, purchased as many as I could obtain. A list of the most important of these I inclose, with a rough pen and ink sketch of the events, and initials on the forks and spoons. The articles themselves shall be handed over to the Secretary of the Hon. H. B. Co. on my arrival in London.

None of the Esquimaux with whom I conversed had seen the "whites," nor had they ever been at the place where the dead were found, but had their information from those who had been there, and those who had seen the party when alive.

From the head of Pelly Bay,—which is a bay, spite of Sir H. Beaufort's opinion to the contrary—I crossed sixty miles of land in a westerly direction, traced the west shore, from Castor-and-Pollux River to Cape Horter of Sir James Ross, and I could have got within thirty or forty miles of Bellot Strait, but I thought it useless proceeding further as I could not complete the whole.

Never, in my former Arctic journeys, had I met with such an accumulation of obstacles. Fogs, storms, rough ice, and deep snow we had to fight against. On one occasion we were four and a half days unable to get a glimpse of the sun, or even to make out his position in the heavens. This, on a level coast, where the compass was of little or no use, was perplexing in the extreme.

The weather was much finer on our return-journey than when outwards-bound; and our loads being lighter, our days' marches were nearly double the distance, and we arrived at Repulse Bay on the 26th May, without accident, except in one instance, in which one of the party lost a toe from a frost-bite.

The commencement of spring was very fine, but June and July were colder. We were unable to get out of the bay until the 6th of August.

Our progress along the coast, as far as Cape Fullerton, was much impeded by ice; but on getting to the southward of the Cape we had clear water and saw no ice afterwards.

The conduct of the men, I am happy to say, was, generally speaking, good; and we had not a single case of sickness all the time of our absence.

Being anxious to send this to Red River by the first boats, I write in haste and briefly, but shall have the pleasure of sending a more detailed account by some further opportunity.

With the utmost respect,
I have the honor to be,
Your very ob't servant,

JOHN RAE.

List (enclosed in Dr. Rae's letter) of Articles purchased from the Esquimaux, said to have been found to the west or rather north-west of Back's River, at the place where the party of men starved to death in Spring, 1850: —

1	silver table-fork,			Crest	No. 1
3	do.	do.	do.	"	" 2
1	do.	do.	spoon,	"	" 3
1	do.	do.	do. motto "Spero Meliora"	"	" 4
1	do.	do.	fork, do.	"	" 4
1	do.	dessert-do.		"	" 5
1	do.	table-spoon,		"	" 5
1	do.	tea-do.		"	" 6
1	do.	table-fork, with initials: "H. D. S. G."			
1	do.	do.	do. do. "A. McD."		
1	do.	do.	do. do. "G. A. M."		
1	do.	do.	do. do. "J. F."		
1	do.	desert-spoon,	do. "J.F.B." or J.S.R		
1	small silver plate (engraved) "Sir John Franklin, K. C. B."				

A star, with motto: "Nec Aspera Terrent," on one side, and on the reverse: "G. R., MDCCCXV."

CRESTS:—

No. 1. Head of (apparently) a Walrus or Seahorse, with dragon's wings.

No. 2. A Griffin, with wings and forked tongue and tail.

No. 3. A Griffin's head, with wings.

No. 4. A Dove, with olive-branch in its bill, surrounded by a scroll, with the motto:—*Spero Meliora.*

No. 5. A Fish's Head, with (apparently) coral branches on either side.

Also a number of other things of minor importance, as they have no particular marks by which they could be recognized; but which, along with those above named, shall be handed over to the Secretary of the Hon. Hudson's Bay Company.

JOHN RAE, C. F.

Repulse Bay July, 1854.

From The Economist, 23 Sept.

THE PAST AND PRESENT OF NAPOLEON III.

Few men in any age or in any rank have had more ups and downs in life than the present Emperor of the French. For few men have the oscillations of the pendulum had so wide a sweep. If the sovereigns had as much influence as is generally imagined over the destinies of the nations whom they rule, the French ought to be the best governed people in Europe, for the five last monarchs who have sat upon the Gallic throne had a training in vicissitude and experience such as rarely falls to the lot of crowned heads. Napoleon had known the sad struggles of poverty and the hard toils of a profession before the career of fortune was opened to him; and he long studied as a poor lieutenant, the character and wants of France, before he led her armies or climbed up her throne. Louis XVIII, and Charles X. ate the bitter bread of exile for five-and-twenty years, and might have learned wisdom if they had been of a stamp to profit by the lessons which circumstances so profusely showered around them. Louis Phillippe, also a wanderer for nearly a quarter of a century, did profit much by his varied and adventurous life; his sagacity was extraordinary, and he seldom was deceived himself or was deceived by others; but even he did not quite understand the management of the anomalous and fitful race whom he was called upon to govern; his morality was not equal to his shrewd sense, and coolness and resolution failed him at the critical moment. He fell at last, less from want of capacity or cleverness, than because his self-seeking propensities had raised against him a storm of unpopularity which his courage was not competent to brave.

Taken altogether perhaps, the vicissitudes of the present Emperor are stranger than those of any of his predecessors. That, in an age of revolution and of war, a soldier of consummate genius should win his way to a throne, is not an unprecedented good fortune. That after the violence of the revolutionary spirit had been followed by its inevitable reaction, the legitimate heirs should recover the Crown which belonged to them by hereditary right, is not in any way astonishing. That a nation, sick of the incurable folly of its royal race, should try the experiment of substituting a collateral and less diseased branch, was nothing more than historical parallels led us to anticipate. But that a young man, offspring of a younger scion of a discarded family, belonging to no profession, whose early life was spent in idleness, penury, and excess, the obscurity of whose history was only broken by two frantic escapades which looked like the very wildness of insanity, who was supposed to possess no genius and was known to be singularly destitute of all external aids to success, brooding, taciturn, damaged, and dissipated,— that such a one should have stepped, in six short years, from poverty, debt, disrepute, and hopeless embarrassment in a London lodging to the position which he now occupies as Supreme Chief of the greatest military nation in the world, and treating and mixing with the other Sovereigns of Europe on terms of admitted equality, — implies a combination of luck and skill, a concurrence of unusually favoring circumstances with unusual sagacity, promptitude, and nerve to turn them to account as they arose, to which history affords few if any parallels.

For, be it remembered, in 1848 everything was against him. He was known disreputably where he was known at all. Those who were acquainted with him in private life, knew him only as a silent, dull, unattractive man, seldom speaking, and possessed with the one idea of his own greatness, owing what he could not pay, and addicted to bad courses and bad company. Only a very few augured anything of his future. To the world at large he was known only as the hero of Strasbourg and Boulogne — as having signalized himself by two of the maddest schemes of revolution ever attempted by a political desperado. These, which we now perceive to have been only attempts to pluck the fruit before it was ripe — premature only, not insane — then seemed nothing but the frenzy of a heated and infirm brain. That of Strasbourg was so ludicrous a failure that the Government thought its ridicule might be its fittest punishment, and dismissed its author with a somewhat contemptuous clemency, on an understanding that he should be exiled to America, and there remain. The Boulogne descent was scarcely better. Its only fitting parellel might be found in Smith O'Brien's revolution in the cabbage garden. This led to some years of close imprisonment. When it was thought that the punishment had been severe enough, the prisoner was permitted to escape; and probably no one but himself believed that he would ever re-appear upon the stage. But the conviction of the high destiny for which he was reserved never left him. He perpetually brooded over what his course would be when he was on the throne. He often startled his interlocutors by the introductory phrase—"When I am Emperor of France." Meanwhile exile and imprisonment had been of single service to him. While in Ham, he had studied and meditated profoundly on the French character and history, till probably he understood it, both in its weaknesses and its wants, better than any one of his countrymen. He observed closely and analyzed keenly the errors of existing rulers —saw where to follow and what to shun. It

is probable that during those years of solitude and *récueillement* he had speculated on every conceivable contingency, and decided what course to pursue under any circumstances that might arise, and had schooled himself to the most difficult of tasks for an ambitious man—that of waiting. He learned that cold, vigilant untiring patience which is the surest road to final success. While in England he studied our institutions and national idiosyncrasies with a thoughtful perseverance which belongs rather to his Dutch than to his French origin, till we believe he understands us better than any man in France. He learned where we drew the resources of our inexhaustible prosperity; how we fight the battles of party warfare; what is the real action of our Press and of our Parliament; wherein lie the intrinsic differences between the two nations, and what of English experience was or was not suitable for France to imitate. He learned to estimate alike our strength and our security.

The revolution of 1848 came, and astonished all Europe by its suddenness, its completeness and its bloodless character. Louis Napoleon immediately wrote to the Provisional Government to place himself at their disposal—to offer his services to France. The hour was not yet come; the pear was not quite ripe. He was politely informed that the best service he could render to his country at that conjuncture was to remain absent from it. He took the hint, and "bided his time." He became a candidate, and was soon elected to a seat in the New Assembly. When informed of it by an English acquaintance, he simply remarked —"Aye!—that is the first step of the ladder." His oratorial attempts in the Chamber were not successful, and he soon discontinued them. When the worst work and the most sanguinary struggle of the new order of things was over, when the battle of June had broken the strength of the Red Republic, and a President for four years had to be chosen, the love of order and the fear of new experiments had begun to prevail, and the name of a Buonaparte carried the day against the services of Cavaignac and the talent of Lamartine.—Louis Napoleon was elected by a vast majority —a majority which spoke both of the vast influence which his uncle's memory still exercised over half the nation, and of the wish of the other half to re-enter on an old faith rather than to venture on a fresh one. This was "the second step of the ladder;"—and the announcement of the numbers showed the ambitious aspirant that his destiny was henceforth in his own hands.

Now began a series of intrigues and efforts which may admit of palliation, but scarcely of defence or eulogy. There can, we think, be no doubt that, as soon as he became President, he resolved to become Emperor. That is—as soon as he had sworn to maintain a certain constitution and administer certain laws, he set himself to destroy that constitution and to violate those laws. It is true, unquestionably, that his object was so obvious as to warrant the endeavor of the Assembly to limit his power and tie his hands in every possible way. It is true, unquestionably, that the "necessity" by which the coup d'etat was excused, was in a great measure a necessity of his own creation. It is barely possible that a perfectly unambitious President and a perfectly disinterested Assembly, acting together honestly, conscientiously, and judiciously, might have worked even that constitution. But, on the other hand, it must be admitted that only a degree of wisdom and virtue in both parties, which it is simply absurd to expect from human nature, could have averted constant collision and an ultimate break up. The adversaries of the President, in their anxiety to keep him in fetters, incessantly put themselves in the wrong. They thwarted and hampered him in a degree that no ruler could submit to without humiliation, and were as much bent upon reducing him to a cipher as he was upon making himself absolute. It soon became obvious that his position with such an Assembly and such a constitution was utterly insupportable. It was equally obvious that the interests of the country required a change. The leaders of the Legislature were as determined upon sending the Chief of the Executive to Vincennes, as he was anticipating them in showing his adversaries that polite attention. One of the two competitors for the powers of the State must become supreme:—he thought it desirable that Louis Napoleon should come out conqueror from the conflict—and France thought so too. It cannot be denied that the coup was a violation of oaths and a breach of the peace, but it had become a political necessity. A civil war was imminent, and if the Assembly had conquered, must have broken out; for the majority of the people, whether rightly or wrongly, were satisfied with the President and disgusted with the Assembly. The very week of the coup this journal explained at some length the impossibility of matters going on as they were. The thing had to be done—and there can, we think, be no question now, that the promptitude, skill, decision, and completeness with which the blow was struck, by making opposition hopeless, saved the country from the horrors of a terrible and a long-protracted strife.

It will be remembered that we alone, of all the liberal journals of this country, took this view of the subject, and ventured at once to excuse the daring usurpation and to augur hopefully of a redeeming future. We observed then that the use made of the power

thus seized might be such as to consecrate the seizure;—that history would forgive the deed if France sanctioned it by her vote, and if Louis Napoleon justified it by throwing over it the halo of a reign signalized by justice, prosperity, and internal peace, if inaugurated by violence and oppression. How far has this been done?

That France shares in the guilt, if guilt there were; that she sanctioned the usurpation by an ex-post-facto declaration that Louis Napoleon had anticipated her wishes; that she passed as speedily and promptly as it could be done the most complete and cordial bill of indemnity that was ever drawn up,—there is now no dispute. Some were delighted that the powers of government should once more be wielded by a resolute and despotic man; some rejoiced that they might at length lay aside their fears of the Socialists; some were anxious only for a respite from the wearisome reiteration of perpetual intrigues and alarms; others had no belief in the suitability of either a republican or constitutional regime for France, and were glad to return to a dictator who would save them the trouble of governing themselves; others, again, were sick of the *hommes politiques* of the last twenty years, and hoped much from an entirely new order of men; officers looked for promotion, priests for encouragement and power;—but from one motive or other, it cannot be doubted that at least a numerical three-fourths of France approved of what had been done, and readily pardoned, if they did not applaud, the mode of doing it. Nor has the sanction then given been since withdrawn:—on the contrary, the President was soon made into an Emperor; plots have ceased; no one looks for, and few desire, an immediate change of dynasty; even rival parties have acquiesced for the present, and admit that they must wait for a change of public feeling before they can entertain any prospect of success.

How far has Napoleon III. fulfilled the hopeful auguries of those who anticipated that his rule might be a blessing for his country—might be the special blessing she most required? Not certainly in all things—but on the whole, well. He has not, as we hoped, gradually relaxed the grasp of despotic authority which at first might be necessary. He has not released the Press from any of its fetters. He has not encouraged in the Senate or Legislative Chamber that freedom of speech and action which we think he might safely have done, and which would have been a gradual preparation for a more constitutional regime. He has not shown himself strong enough or courageous enough to disregard the hostility of words. He has not allowed that full liberty of speech without which a Government can never be safe, or know that it is safe. He has not restored full freedom and publicity to judicial proceedings. He has not withheld his hand, as soon, or as much as we believe he might have done, from the sin of arbitrary imprisonment. Some are still at Cayenne or in Algiers who ought to be in France, and some still in jail or at the galleys who ought to be at liberty. He has not discouraged corruption or enforced purity of public conduct among his officials, as he ought to have done. His has not been a frugal or economical Government. There is still much pecuniary iniquity and much scandalous waste in high places. So far he has disappointed the expectations of those who anticipated from him a great, generous, and noble policy.

On the other hand, he has disappointed equally the fears of those who believed that his selfish and headlong ambition would set Europe in a blaze. He has not marched an army into Italy. He has not seized Belgium. He has not invaded England. He has not insisted on the frontier of the Rhine. It is possible that the wild dark dreams which had fermented in his brain during the brooding years of imprisonment and exile have been rapidly dissipated by the light of day and the healthy influence of the actual business of political life. He was restless and tormented with a vague and insatiable ambition as long as he was unfortunate and obscure:—now that he has reached the pinnacle which he so long sought, he may repose on his success; he can distinguish between the possible and the impossible—between chimeras and realities—between dreams and actualities:—and is far too wise to risk so rich a certainty as that which he has attained in schemes for the problematic and the unattainable.

He has maintained unbroken order and tranquillity within. He has forestalled or detected all plots in time, and has repressed them almost without bloodshed. He has steered France through those perils which have so often proved fatal to her peace—the perils of a bad harvest—with uncommon skill. It is true he has done this by violating some sound principles of economic science; but France has too long been accustomed to set these at naught for us to judge her or her Government by our rules; and what is economically indefensible may sometimes be, at certain crises and in certain countries, politically necessary. Unquestionably the proceedings he adopted during the scarcity of last year met the approval of the most sagacious men of France, and assuredly a scarcity never before was attended with so little misery or so little disturbance.

In another and more questionable matter he has violated strict economic principles for the sake of public tranquillity. He has carried on public works of utility and embellishment on a scale which his revenue scarcely warranted.

He has spent public money with the ostensible and avowed object of employing the people, as well as of embellishing Paris. It is to be feared that, in pursuing this object, he has spent vast sums which will never yield any adequate pecuniary return. But it is certain that by this means he has kept in industry and comfort many thousand workmen who would otherwise have been suffering and turbulent, for "when building goes on briskly (says a French proverb), all trades go on briskly";—and when we reflect that the most indispensable condition of prosperity and wealth is security and peace, we may admit that expenditure which purchases these conditions may be a legitimate expenditure, if not carried too far or continued too long. Certain it is that the nearly universal impression throughout France is, that the public works which are now being carried on, on such a stupendous scale, could not possibly be suspended without the most imminent and deadly peril. And we must not forget, as a set-off to these un-economic proceedings, that Napoleon III. has more advanced notions on the subject of Free Trade than almost any of his subjects, and is gradually introducing them and acting upon them as occasion offers. The edge of the wedge has already been driven in; and we may hope for far more from him in this direction than from the freest assembly that was ever chosen by universal suffrage.

Finally, the conduct of the French Emperor in the Eastern Question has deserved and has met with its reward. His first step with regard to the "Holy Places" was inconsiderate and condemnable enough; but since then he has merited all praise. His proceedings have been consistent, dignified, sagacious, and strictly honorable. We do not, indeed, imagine that his bosom glowed with any sincere indignation against the oppressive and deceitful conduct of the Czar, or that he wept any actual tears of sympathy over the dangers or the woes of the unhappy Sultan, or that he has been guided in this matter by a disinterested regard to the dictates of abstract justice. But he at once perceived as a statesman that the projects of Russia, if not checked, would give her a preponderating influence in Europe incompatible with the pretensions of the Western Powers, and the maintenance of the existing equilibrium; and that if she ever obtained possession of Constantinople, she would clash dangerously with French influence in the Mediterranean. He was not sorry, either, in his secret soul, to have so early an opportunity afforded him of thwarting and mortifying the despot who refused to address him as "My Brother." But more than all, he saw at a glance, with his usual astute sagacity, that by acting cordially, honorably, and energetically with England in this matter, he would at once step into the position which, as an isolated and recent Sovereign, he did not possess, of one of the great Royal Conclave of Europe;—he would become, instead of a successful adventurer, a recognized Potentate, treating on terms of perfect equality with all other Monarchs:—the faithful, trusted Ally of England could no longer be looked upon as a usurper. Accordingly, from the first, his conduct towards us has been marked by the utmost openness, explicitness, friendliness, and integrity. And he has gained his object. He has humbled Nicholas, and he has rehabilitated himself. The same man who landed at Boulogne in 1840 with a single steamer and a few friends on a desperate and abortive expedition, revisits it in 1854 to review a vast army and receive the homage of countless spectators. The same man who six years ago lived in obscurity in London, scarcely able to pay his tailor's and quite unable to pay his horse-dealer's bill—whom many looked upon as stupid and whom none looked upon as wise—of whom few augured well and whom few would trust much—we have just seen receiving the visit and the compliments of the Consort of our Queen, entertaining three Royal guests at his table—one of them the son-in-law of the very Monarch whom he had succeeded—and admitted beyond all denial into the social circle of Royal personages. Nor is this change in his singular fortunes the only one, nor perhaps the greatest. We can imagine him smiling with even a more grim satisfaction as he contrasts the language of the English Press regarding him in 1852 and now; sitting with the *Times* or the *Examiner* of December, 1851 and of August, 1854 before him,—and marvelling over the metamorphosis,—the unmeasured abuse which was showered upon him at the former date, and the decorous respect and cordial praise with which he is spoken of now. The "seedy swell" and the "sanguinary and audacious ruffian," is now the polite and sagacious Emperor, and takes wine *tête-à-tête* with Prince Albert and King Leopold.

From the Examiner.

THE NEW SORT OF DESPOTISM.

THAT provoking old gentleman, M. de Turgot, whom the imperial virtue of gratitude still retains (with a clever secretary of legation at his elbow) at Madrid, will not allow a journal of the Spanish capital to call his government "despotism of a new sort" without trying to clap the plain-speaking Spaniard into limbo.

Stupid M. de Turgot! Why, surely the merit of the present government of France is just exactly that it is, not the old sort, but a new sort of despotism.

That its power is absolute and complete, is a fact about which only M. de Turgot could deceive himself. But in the imperial edicts which exercise this absolute power it is attributed to the "grace of God and the free will of the French people." That is—for we are not here discussing the truth of its pretensions, it rests its foundation and justification on mixed titles which other despotisms would rather fall to pieces than unite. Well, therein at least is surely a very great novelty. Let us observe for a moment what has been the succession of governments in France.

In 1789 that course of events began (never to terminate) their descent on time, which the Restoration was an attempt to turn aside. The hope then was to restore the theory of the older system without the practice of its more flagrant rottennesses. It failed. The revolution of 1830 was, we grieve to have to say it, an eighteen years' fraud, nearly two decades of dishonesty and dishonor. The Republic of 1848 became—the more shame to those who made it so—an impossibility for France. And when all parties were quarrelling over the spoil, there came round, as we had too long expected, not to condemn the needless crime that ushered it into existence, a Bonaparte regime. It appeared first as a despotism of the old sort, with small chances for continuance; but it has proved since to be such a despotism as France only can create or will endure, with aims in themselves nor irrational or immoderate, with a head on its shoulders, with sense to direct and courage to execute its thoughts.

Our friend the *Economist* will here discover fresh reason to tax us with inconsistency, but we have no fear of such misconstruction from unprejudiced readers. It is not because good has sprung out of evil that the evil is to receive any part of our worship or esteem; and it is not because evil preceded good that the good is to be rejected for the bad companionship. We have not so read history or studied morals.

The *Economist* is pleased to imagine the French Emperor smiling with a grim satisfaction as, with the *Times* and *Examiner* of December, 1851, and of August, 1854, before him, he contrasts the unmeasured abuse of the former date, and the decorous respect and cordial praise with which he is spoken of now.

The "seedy swell" and the "sanguinary and audacious ruffian" is now the polite and sagacious Emperor, and takes wine *tête à tête* with Prince Albert and King Leopold.

Our fair and friendly contemporary would of course impute to us that the words thus marked with inverted commas are either a quotation from this journal or at least a fair representation of our manner of speaking of Louis Napoleon three years ago. To any one in the habit of reading the *Examiner* we have no need to repel such an imputation; to others it may be as well to say, that there is not a particle of truth in it. The language is not ours, nor have we ever used any like it. The only difference between ourselves and our critic has been, that he welcomed a wrong for the mere chance of what it might bring, and that we as little then approved what we knew to be wrong, as we have since condemned what we believe to be right. In other words, we have thought that other sentiments were worth asserting in the world besides the sentiment of the till, and we never preferred the uninterrupted course of business and trade to every other earthly consideration.

What did we say in Dec. 1851? We stamped with all the reprobation we felt, and still feel, the violent assault upon a nation's liberties. Yet even then, when we feared the establishment of a military government that would complete the chain of despotic posts from Petersburg to the Pyrenees, we deprecated all quarrel with France. We were ready to accept of any settlement of the French government without scrutiny of its origin, or of the method, however fraudulent, by which the arrangement might have been effected. We held that moral judgments were quite apart from international relations. Nor from all this have we swerved in any respect. We accept what is before us and are thankful. To whatever cause it may be owing in the unexpected march of affairs, to whatever unseen control exercised by princes or by peoples, to whatever more intimate relations with England induced by the occurrences of the last eighteen months, the imperial government has belied the fears that were at first entertained of it. That chance of stability which was most endangered by its violent origin, it has derived, in the inscrutable working of events, from the very enmity and antagonism on which it might most have relied for countenance and favor. We have welcomed in it, therefore, all with which we could sympathize. We have praised the candor and wisdom of its foreign policy. We have welcomed every nearer approach of the French people to our own. But we have never withdrawn our condemnation of an act which, while it perhaps only hastened by a brief space what the French people would themselves have effected, left results which no amount of energy or prudence may even yet prevent from exacting retribution; and it is not many weeks since we ventured to warn the French Emperor that constitutional governments and free countries are best formed and adapted even for the emergencies of war.

The modifications of the imperial system into the form in which we now see it, and the

acts of energy and wisdom that have distinguished it, have been best marked by its gradual approaches, and its ultimate earnest adhesion, to the English Alliance; and they receive a striking illustration this week from the decree organizing the police of Paris after the model of that of London. Now the advantages and indeed necessity of this alliance we have been urging through every vicissitude of government in France since the fall of Louis Phillippe. We took the liberty of reminding the French President in June, 1850, that the English alliance alone was that which would give him weight, without demanding from him unpopular and dangerous concessions. Throughout his struggle with the Assembly we said also that the Assembly was the most unpopular, and that he had the public voice with him. Of his abilities we never spoke with the scorn attributed to us. On more than one occasion, even before his election to the Presidency, we have said that the ridicule of the Strasbourg and Boulogne attempts proceeded on an assumption which subsequent events had disproved, and that after all he seemed to have known better than most people the ripeness of Louis Phillippe for his tumble. On two occasions we expressly defended him against contemptuous aspersions. In July, 1851, we condemned the rejection by the Assembly of the measure for his re-election, as a sin against the true democratic principle which should leave to a people its unfettered choice; and two weeks later we expressed the same opinion we have always felt, that of the duties of his Presidency he had acquitted himself with credit, that he had filled with efficiency and general success that highest office in the State, and that he deserved and ought to receive well of France. We are not the less disposed now to think, therefore, that in the sincerity and good faith he has displayed to England he deserves well of Englishmen, and that the new sort of despotism he appears anxious to establish is one that his supporters should be careful to distinguish from the old.

Yes—the *Economist* may think it as inconsistent as M. de Turgot thinks it odd, but, looking to other great European States, we think the present Napoleonian system, with its political and municipal approaches to England, with its hearty alliance to a free State in driving back the encroachments of a barbarous and military tyranny, a very great novelty indeed. The introduction of such a despotism into Russia, Austria, or Prussia, would have a marvellously beneficial effect on the fortunes of the world. For these we hold to be still terribly marred and blighted by that older order of despotism which fathers all its mischiefs, its oppressions, its misrule, its bigotry, and its cruelties on "the grace of God," and repudiates all connection with "the free will of the People." This vice at least the imperial despotism of France is free from, and therefore, M. de Turgot, it is quite new.

With despotism at the same time, be it old or be it new, we in England (if we may speak *pace* the *Economist*) have of course no sympathy. But want of sympathy need not disable us from seeing what very different things they are; and especially in this, that out of the one nothing good for the future can come, whereas the other, having once based itself on the intelligent and progressive, can only be regarded as in a temporary or chrysalis state of existence, from which, if it endure long enough, something brighter and better for mankind will be sure to spring. For it there can be nothing now merely stationary, retrogressive, bigoted, stupid, old, obsolete, or depressing. The condition of its revolutionary life is, and must be, improvement and reform, of one sort and another. If it do not fulfil that condition, it will fall to pieces within the circle of its own legality. On the other hand, older despotisms can and do go on in their wickednesses, their blunderings, their follies, their stupidities, and their enormities, until all that was valuable or noble in their subjects is destroyed.

The older despotisms of Christian Europe, too, cling to each other, and hang together. Together they defend and subserve each other, and together they will fall. Outside their own Druidical circle, they are everywhere fickle and false. They astonish you with promises, and are great in circulars and protocols, yet other states can neither comprehend nor place faith in them. To-day they are allies, but to-morrow their alliance is nowhere, and their armies exactly where they ought not to be. They cannot even be true and faithful to their own instincts of self-interest; they do not dare to put in practice for themselves what they are supreme at working out in theory; and as for Europe, they only know it as a field for the impious exercise of Divine Right and the Grace of God. These are the older and sacerdotal despots of Europe—the Heads of one Church, the Apostolical Sovereigns of one another, the Leaders of Evangelical Pietism in a third.

But the new despotism — in which we have to observe, whatever be the crime of its origin, that the element of chief magistracy, and not of sacerdotalism, is predominant — has shown, in reference to its external affairs, that it can have a rational, free, broad, and unselfish policy; and this policy it can dare to carry out so faithfully and loyally as to heal old sores, obliterate old animosities, lay the foundations of a sincere union, and in this manner sway, *in the sense of liberty*, the fortunes of the world. Hence it is that we give it all present support,

in the aspect it has assumed. Indeed there is some danger that, being what it still is, a mere form or modification of despotism, it should carry off praise which is less due to it than to the man who administers it. For why, because we were unprepared for a prudent use of power seized after such unscrupulous fashion, should we hesitate now to recognize in Louis Napoleon a man who has at least brought plain common sense into palaces where before it rarely ever entered, and to a people who, with all their faults, are full of great and noble qualities.

He reigns, he says, by the free choice of the French people. The despotism we have been describing as so usefully at this time placed at the head of the French people, we are told and required to believe that they themselves placed there. That indeed is putting the cart before the horse, and reversing in theory what took place in action on the Boulevards. But yet words have not a little of the force of things. In such a recognition of popular election in its inauguration, there is after all involved an immense amount of practical responsibility to the people, worth all the responsibility to Heaven that ever Czar or Kaiser preached about. Mere responsibility, even of the former sort, does not, we know, constitute the best kind of government —very far from it; but the despotism responsible only (in its pretensions) to Heaven, constitutes the very worst. The one is mere brute force, less or more enlightened; the other is, at least, intelligence of a high order. And if men are to be deprived, or can deprive themselves, of self-government, there may be comfort, and pride, and safety too, in living under a system that must conform to tests and criticism, as well as to a sense of dignity, and a knowledge of what is due to nationality, of which the other neither knows nor cares.

In one sense, then, the new despotism is a continuation of the Great Revolution of France. It acknowledges the supreme sovereignty of the nation; it repudiates all privileges; it works out its own system on the alleged basis of equality of rights. It denies the nation the highest of all rights, but it affects, in their exercise, to be substituted *for* the nation; and though it spends on itself right liberally — not only the million sterling appropriated by the budget of expenses, but the enforced economies of all the ministries besides — and rewards lavishly all its instruments, nevertheless we cannot say that at such a time as this the money is not well spent; for the work of internal improvement and of external freedom is priceless. Bad government is dear at any price; but where the state is concentrated in a single man, his expenditure ceases in a great measure to have a personal character, and a new despotism cannot afford to be shabby, or mean, or even economical. That, indeed, would disgust France. Bear witness the huckstering and management of Louis Phillippe.

Another thing remains to be said. This new despotism being, as it says of itself, only a continuation of the Great Revolution of 1789, and a fulfilment of it, cannot long retain its present shape and form. As now constituted, it can have no heirs, natural or adopted. It may cover Europe with its good effects, may change the face of France by its measures, may adorn Paris beyond the flights of imagination, may at last even introduce order into the finances, put the church in due subordination to the state, and leave marks of its utility everywhere. But there is an early end of it. Death comes and it is gone. Neither the grace of God nor the free will of the French people has conferred a freehold upon it. It can only endure by entering into a larger field of existence — by taking the nation into real and actual partnership with it—by breathing through the national lungs, by speaking through the national voice, by using the national mind. This it must do, if it would live; and this, as yet, it has not begun to do.

Still, a new despotism that has done so much, may do more. It may prepare the way for a restoration, not of imaginary, but of active freedom. And this it could readily begin by extending the powers and raising the character of the Consuls-General of the Departments; by permitting them to become the undoubted exponents of the feelings and wishes of the local communities; in a word, by developing provincial franchises and freedom, instead of cutting and carving a great scheme of centralized representation, where all would be noise, intrigue, and mischief.

In that direction would appear to lie the true domestic interests of the new despotism. But there lies also the field of speculation, and into it we will not enter.

What we desired was to separate the despotism of Louis Napoleon from the despotism of Nicholas or Francis, and to show that the feeling with which this journal now offers him support is the same that formerly resisted him. That done, we can but say, as Sterne said to the starling when happy in its cage: "still, SLAVERY, thou art a bitter draught; and though thousands, in all ages, have drunk of thy cup, thou art not on that account the less bitter."

From The Times.

LIFE IN AUSTRALIA.

The following extracts from the correspondence of a man who gave up a good situation of £300 a year to go to the diggings give a lively picture of the ups and downs of life in Australia:

MELBOURNE, April 13.

I am once more in this city, driven to it by continued ill fortune at the diggings. For the last six months I have been floundering about on the confines of desperation, working like a horse, and existing God knows how!—and how I am to exist for the future is still a great puzzle. I have been knocking about the country everywhere, but the fiend ill-fortune has taken me under her special protection, and dogged my heels so closely that I have been unable, even since I came here, to obtain any, the meanest, employment. I am now, on the eve of Good Friday, obliged to retire into the bush, and there to exist as best I can, until the holydays are over, my means being quite exhausted, and I am unable to "raise the wind" anyhow, even for a few days. But I shall get over it, as I have got over other as bad fixes during the above period, and will write to you again shortly, when I feel a little more comfortable. I have not the heart to write to ——, but if any inquiries are made you can simply state that I am quite well, and have come here on account of my ill success at the diggings.

MAY 19.

I wrote to you on the 13th ult. At that time my exchequer was so low that I was, as I told you, obliged to go and pass the Easter holydays in the bush. Since then, fortune has played so many queer pranks upon me in such rapid succession that I can hardly yet take them for a reality. I will, however, endeavor to give you a rapid account of what has occurred to me during this short but eventful period.

After I had finished my letter to you of the 13th ult., I took my carpet-bag to an old acquaintance to get it stored for a while, until I could look out for employment. On my going to him, whom I had not seen for a twelvemonth previous, of course numerous inquiries were made on both sides as to how the "world wagged" with us. I frankly confessed that it was very "hard cheese" with me, and that I would freely take anything I could get to keep me afloat. I said nothing about the state of my purse, nor that I had been forced to "hide my diminished head" in the bush during the holydays; but told him I was going in search of employment up the country. This brought about a conversation as to the sort of situation I had been accustomed to at home. Upon my informing him, he said, "Why our governors (storemen) are in want of a clerk! if you like, I will go and speak to Mr. —— on the subject." "But," says I, "look at my dress (I was in digger's weeds), I cannot appear before him in this raiment." "Never mind your dress," he replied, "Mr. —— was obliged to go a-shepherding when he came to the colony, and can therefore the more easily understand your case." All right, says I; "go and pave the way for my appearance before him." Go he did, and in a few minutes I was in the presence of Mr. ——. The interview was very short. He eyed me most closely from head to foot with a look of astonishment, I supposed, or rather inferred, from my impudence in applying for the situation in such attire; asked what I had been doing since I came to the colony, my employment at home, etc., and then told me they would consider about it, and let me know in a few days. I concluded that this interview in my digging attire had made a damping impression to my prejudice, but I decided on remaining in town for a short time to hear the result. Nothing came of it after waiting for nearly a week; I therefore left, and passed the next night in the bush, a few miles from town, with little to satisfy the cravings of the inward man. Next day, starvation staring me in the face, I parted with my faithful old dog, Rattler, who has been, as I told you before, my constant companion ever since I came to this colony, for three sovereigns only, and then turned my nose up the road towards the interior in search of work, but could obtain none. Three days afterwards, I found myself at Castlemaine, and now determined on going to the Avoca diggings to see my brother, and tell him how I was situated. In two days more I reached that place, with only a few shillings in my pocket. He, like a brother, came forward at once, and offered me a receipt for 25 ounces of gold, deposited with the commissioner at Bendigo, and gave me £2 to see me to that place. I did not want so much, but he insisted on it, so I took it and left the same evening for Bendigo. I made six miles that night, and about thirty miles the next day brought me to the crossing place on the Loddon River, about twelve miles from Castlemaine, when a very heavy thunder-storm was impending, which obliged me to halt and put up at a pseudo-refreshment tent for the night, contrary to my usual practice when travelling in this country in any reasonable weather. I generally light a fire in the bush, and rig up a "mi-mi" of boughs, and avoid these accommodation places by the roadside, as they are known throughout the diggings for their bad repute, with very few exceptions.

Well, it was here that I met with an adventure which nearly cost my life. I cannot go into full details—that must be left for a long winter evening's tale by a cosy fireside, if ever I am spared to enjoy that comfort again. This refreshment place was a den of bushrangers and robbers; they managed to hocus me in a glass of soda-water, but, thank God, the dose had been got up by an inexperienced hand, and to this fact alone do I attribute my safety and ultimate escape from these scoundrels. The dose, instead of stupefying me, as they intended, only excited my brain. The moment I felt its effects I bolted out of the place, between 10 and 11 o'clock at night, with only my shirt and trousers on, and ran into the bush as fast as my legs would carry me, in order to save my life; the villains pursued me on horseback, but the swiftness of my flight, the darkness of the night, and afterwards by what I cannot but think was a special interposition of Providence in directing my course, the voice of a bird—the "maw-paw," or Australian cuckoo—saved me. The effects the drug produced on my imagination were most extraordinary; I was under the influence of a very strange feeling for six hours afterwards—not like that of drink; I cannot describe it. I was perfectly conscious of everything, yet could fix no object steadily in my eye; everything seemed as reflected through a

mirror; and I got over the ground as lightly and airily, if you can comprehend me, that, though my body felt keenly the cold morning air, and the pricks and scratches of the stones and brushwood upon my feet, it seemed as if tenanted by something supernatural, which lifted me above the things of earth, and divested me of fatigue—I cannot tell you how. My brain must have been in a very strange state from the effects of the drug, for, although this bird, the mawpaw, undoubtedly accompanied me for miles, yet the most curious part is, that I interpreted its sayings into directions which way I was to run, etc.—for instance, "going astray," "follow that star," "stop," "rest," "look up," "follow the star again," etc., all of which I imagined I heard as plainly and clearly as anything I ever heard in my life, and which I implicitly followed, putting myself entirely under the protection and guidance of this voice. Next morning I found that this bird had led me through the bush, over ranges and gullies, for a distance of seven or eight miles, in a straighter line than it was possible I could have gone over this unknown ground in broad daylight.

Next morning at daybreak I found I was in the township of Muckleford, about five miles from Castlemaine, where I related what had happened to me, and claimed protection from the villains, who would be prowling about the road in search of me—their creed being, "Dead men tell no tales." I was told there were no police nearer than Castlemaine, and that many robberies had been heard of lately at the very same place. They gave me a pair of old shoes, and furnished me with a breakfast. While I was partaking of it, who should pass the door of the house but one of the gang of scoundrels on his way from Castlemaine, and from the direction he was taking, it was clear that he must have been prowling about the road all night, or got on to where I saw him before daylight. I felt quite sure he was looking after me, and that if he had met me on the road my life would have been sacrificed. I had left all my "swag" behind me when I bolted out of the robbers' tent, and was anxious to get it back, and on arrival at Castlemaine I applied to the police magistrate to assist me, and send some troopers to arrest the vagabonds, but was politely informed that, although he had heard a great deal of these fellows' misdeeds, he could not assist me. Finding I could get no redress, I went on to Bendigo, and ordered the gold to be sent down by escort to town, and returned there myself with all haste. I there found that Mr. —— had been inquiring of my old acquaintance for me, and I was to be set to work to bring up the stock book, and if I suited, I was to be taken on as shipping clerk, and to display my abilities in this schoolboy's work. I had seen the same day that Mr. —— was advertising for a book-keeper, and, finding it was likely to be a first-rate berth, I told my acquaintance I should apply for it. He furnished me with pen, ink, and paper, and I sat down and penned an application accordingly. Next morning I got my trunk, rigged myself out in a civilized manner, and then delivered my letter in person. Mr. —— read it, looked at me and smiled, asked to see my testimonials, then asked me a few questions about them, and at once offered to take me on at £300 per annum to begin with, promising to increase that sum if I continued in his employment and gave satisfaction. I accepted the offer, and took my seat in the office instanter, thinking myself lucky in obtaining the situation so easily and unexpectedly. In a few months it will be worth £400 per annum; indeed, I could get that sum now, but I prefer waiting awhile before I ask for it, and until I get more knowledge of the business transactions of this city.

I have now given you a history of my ups and downs in Victoria, extending over a period of only three weeks, and I leave you to judge if they have not been of a very varied and uncommon character. The fact is, a man may as well be without his head as without money here, and is far better at home. If I had a few hundred pounds to start me with, I would not be the servant of any one, for, altered as things are here of late, I would soon be on the high road to fortune. I have hitherto followed gold digging on the plan of "something or nothing," in hopes of dropping on something, but nothing has been my lot. Ill health for more than six weeks was the cause of my being "stumped out" on Campbell's Creek, where I was working quite alone.

FIRST ASCENT OF MOUNT HOOD.

EFFECTS OF A HIGH ELEVATION UP THE HUMAN SYSTEM.

We give to-day an interesting account of the first ascent of Mount Hood, a snow-capped peak in Oregon, estimated to be 18,361 feet high, even more lofty than Mount Shasta, and heretofore unexplored. The narrative is given by the editor of the Oregonian, who started on the 4th of August, with a party of gentlemen under the guidance of Captain Barlow, an old mountaineer, to ascend the peak.

They camped the first night at Foster's, about twenty miles from Portland. For some thirty miles from Foster's the ascent over the trail, or immigrant road, as it is called, is gradual, except an occasional hill, which to an inexperienced traveller in the mountains, would seem to be an insurmountable barrier to further progress. After some eight hours' riding over a rough, unsettled country, in a hot sun, the most of the way destitute of water, the party attained what appeared to be the summit of the first bench of Mount Hood. A few rods below they found a fine gurgling spring of the purest water.

The narrator continues:—After two hours' rest, and partaking of refreshments, the order was given to "saddle up;" we were soon under way again. The route from this point soon brought us into a deep valley, through which a considerable river, called "Sandy," runs directly from the snow-capped mountain. The party pushed on at as rapid a pace as the road would admit. Through this whole valley the route was over a low bottom, full of large boulders and sand, over which our horses were obliged to make their way as best they could.

We encamped in the bottom for the night.—

Grass was scarce; consequently, in the morning we had some trouble in finding all the horses, as they had wandered a mile or more from the camp after food. However, we soon got under way, and followed the same stream, which, as we ascended, became more rapid, and the valley more narrow. Towards noon we reached the second *lift*, or bench of the mountain.

We were to meet Judge Olney and Major Hallar, of the army, on the south side of the snow peak, as near as possible. From this rendezvous we were distant about four thousand feet. We started on foot up the steep ascent, not less than forty degrees, and after two hours of struggling, puffing, panting and blowing, we attained a top, without serious inconvenience or loss, save the anathemas pronounced upon the horses of the train, and the animal species generally. We found, however, after getting to the first top, there was still a second, third, and a fourth. Finally, all were ascended, and we arrived at the place where Capt. Barlow had designed we should dine.

After this we again got under way, and leaving the trail, plunged into the dense forest, direct for the principal snow peak. We found the woods more open than we had anticipated. By keeping on the highest ridge of land we were enabled to avoid the canyons and deep declivities.

In about three hours' hard travelling, we suddenly emerged into an open plain, thickly covered with grass and flowers. The lofty snow covered mountain loomed up in sublime grandeur and magnificence, apparently not more than a mile or so distant—we, however, travelled full two hours up an ascent of about twenty degrees, which brought us to the snow—lying in the fields on either side and in our front. Here we encamped for the night. On the morning of the 7th, black clouds began to gather around the base of the mountain far below us; it soon commenced to thunder and lighten, and the wind to blow a severe gale from the West. Judge Olney and Major Hallar, after much difficulty, discovered our camp, and came in, presenting anything but a judicial or military appearance.

Our position was too much exposed to the driving wind, so the whole party retreated down the side of the mountain for some three miles, where we camped for the night in a deep canon.—About sunset the wind abated and the clouds below disappeared. The moon rose, (having filled "her horns,") and shone with unusual brightness—and the night was beautiful, although the weather was quite cold. Before 12 o'clock the thermometer fell to the freezing point, and in the morning when we emerged from our frost-covered blankets, we found our tin cups about one-third full of ice from the water left in them over night.

At this point we thought we could discover through a telescope, smoke ascending from the extreme pinnacle. It had not previously been supposed that Mount Hood was at this time volcanic.

On the morning of the 8th, the party left camp in high spirits, determined to reach the summit. The animals were pushed at double quick time up the side of the mountain, as far as it was safe or practicable to take them, where they were quickly stripped of their burdens and picketed. In a few minutes all were off for the top; each took some provisions and were provided with well made creepers, iron socket mountain staffs with hooks, ropes, etc., etc.,—the same kind that we used in ascending Mount St. Helens last year, and which we found indispensable for climbing snow covered mountains.

We commenced the ascent upon the southeast side, by first traversing a sharp narrow ridge between the headwaters of Dog River on our right and a tributary of the De Chutes on the left. This ridge was attained by first crossing a chasm of about 500 feet in depth, formed by the water of the last named stream. After two hours hard climbing, we stopped to refresh. We then continued the ascent, and in a little while our naked ridge was lost in the mantle of snow which now lay spread out before and on either side of us.

After attaining a high altitude, we found the snow lying in waves similar to a "chopped sea;" therefore, we had to rise at almost every step, from six inches to two, three, and sometimes four feet! The sun had softened the top of the snow sufficiently to make a slight indentation by the boot.

Thus we continued to ascend for several thousand feet at an angle of almost 50 degrees, when the rarefied atmosphere began to exhibit its effects upon all, but more especially upon Judge Olney, Major Hallar, and Captain Travillot.—Soon Major H. could go no farther, in consequence of dizziness in the head, which affected him seriously. After a while, Captain T. found the blood starting from the surface, and was also attacked with a like dizziness, when he prudently declined going further. After a few rods further up, the ascent became more steep—by theodolite 70 degrees—where Judge Olney was reluctantly compelled to halt, in consequence of the singular effect of the air upon him. From this point, we were compelled to make steps by kicking the toes of our boots several times into the snow. By following close to the edge of a large ledge of rocks lying perpendicular with the mountain, where the sun's reflection from the ledge had softened the snow, enabled us to get comparatively a good foothold. Our friend Lake followed close upon our heels. The Indian who had now a good pair of creepers, and a good mountain staff, seemed determined to go up as far as the "Bostons" could; although he could not be induced to lead the way or even go between us. For nearly two hours there was nothing said, except an occasional warning from us to Mr. Lake to "close nannage," and the response of—"all right!"—"go ahead!"—"we'll come it!"

Finally, at 2 1-2 o'clock P. M. we attained the summit on the southeast side. We, found the top similar to that of Mount St. Helens—extremely narrow, lying in a crescent shape; Mt. St. Helens facing the northwest by a crescent, while Mt. Hood faces the southwest. The sharp ride on top runs from the southwest to the north, making a sharp turn to the west at the north

end. The main ridge is formed of decomposed volcanic substances of a light reddish color, with cones from 20 to 50 feet high at intervals of a few rods. These cones or rocks are full of cracks or fissures, as if they had been rent by some convulsion of nature at a remote period. Between these cones there are numerous holes, varying from the size of a common water bucket down to two or three inches in diameter. Trough these breathing holes—as we call them —and through the crevices in the rock, there is constantly escaping hot smoke or gas of a strong sulphuric odor. In passing over the ridge for near half a mile, we discovered a large number of these breathing holes; through some the heat was more intense than others.

We did not carry up a thermometer; therefore, we could not get the exact degree of the heat; but from holding our hand over several of them, we have no doubt that the thermometer would have shown "boiling heat" in some of them. As soon as the Indian discovered by holding his hand over one of these "breathing holes," the existence of fire beneath, he immediately retreated as far as he dare go down the mountain alone. The smoke or gas was very offensive to the nostrils, as well as irritating to the eyes. We attempted to look into several of them, but were prevented from getting more than a momentary glance, for the reason above mentioned. We, however, rolled stones into them, and could hear them descend for a considerable distance. We remained about one hour traversing the ridge and examining the country in the distance. We could distinctly see Mounts Jefferson, Three Sisters, McLaughlin, St. Helens, Rainier and Adams, besides two other snow peaks, whose names, if they have any, we are unacquainted with; also Fremont's Peak and Shasta Butte mountain, in California.

These last mentioned peaks must be nearly or quite five hundred miles from Mount Hood. The vast extent of country over which the eye could reach, would be received as incredible by any but those who have been upon these towering mountains on a clear day, and in an Oregon atmosphere. There appeared to be a bank of fog hanging over the ocean, which precluded us from seeing it distinctly. There was also a dark cloud or bank of smoke laying off to the northeast, very low down, which shut out a small portion of the country in that direction from our view. Aside from this, the whole country for hundreds of miles was in plain view before us. In the distance on either side, could be traced the different ranges of the well known great coast range on the west, the Sierra Nevada on the south and southeast, the Siskiyou on the southwest, and the Blue and Rocky mountains on the east, besides the great head of Cascades to the north. These, together with the thousand smaller ranges, with their innumerable crests and indentations, present to the eye a perfect forest of mountains. Bearing south 15 degrees east, at a distance of perhaps about forty miles, we discovered a lake surrounded by a large prairie or open country. This lake, so far as we could learn, was entirely unknown.

While on the top of the mountain we were startled by a tremendous crushing, rumbling noise below. At first we anticipated it to be an earthquake, or something of that sort. Judge Olney and those below heard it also, and accounted for it on our return. It was caused by an avalanche of rock under the immense bodies of snow which lay in large fields hundreds, and perhaps a thousand feet in depth. We examined some chasms in the snow of very near or quite a thousand feet in depth, and two or three hundred feet across, extending horizontally with the mountain for a great distance.

The late hour of the day, together with the visible increase of cold, forced us to retrace our steps down much sooner than we desired. Our descent was much more rapid than our ascent, although a portion of the way apparently more dangerous.

The latitude of Mount Hood is 44 deg. 30 min. All the specimens collected at or near the summit are composed, first, of decomposed granite, some black and some red; second, lava in large quantities, in its pure state, and brimstone mixed with calcium; third, pumice stone; fourth, black lead mixed with granite and brimstone; fifth, ashes of a light yellowish red color. The eruptions appear to have been on the south side, and of remote date. The most singular of all, is the appearance of the ridge we ascended. Upon this ridge there are numbers of old, dead, scrubby trunks of the mountain spruce tree, which extend for nearly or quite two miles higher up than at any other point. The conclusion is irresistible that this ridge has been upheaved, or, in other words, raised many thousands of feet by some convulsion of nature.

The last vestige of vegetation ceases to exist about two and a half or three miles from the summit.

An immense cavern was discovered by Capt. Travaillot and Mr. Lake, on the south-west side, about two miles above the snow line. Time would not allow us to examine it minutely, which we much regretted.

In descending from a rarefied to a dense atmosphere, those who had not been seriously affected by the ascent, came in for their share of the general debility and difficulty in breathing We had our full share, and were for a time entirely unable to travel more than a few rods at a time without lying down on the snow or ground to rest. On the 11th the party reached Portland, having been just a week engaged in the exploration.

WANT OF CIRCULATING MEDIUM.—The want of any copper coin in Peru has occasioned a curious practice of which Lt. Maw was informed at Truxillo. A person coming to the market of that city and not wishing to expend a real upon every article, "purchases a real's worth of eggs, with which he or she proceeds to market, buying an egg's worth of vegetables from one, and so on from others, till all that was wanted has been got. The eggs are taken as current payment and finally purchased themselves by those wht require them for use."

From the Dublin University Magazine.

THE THREE MR. SMITHS.—A SCENE IN THE FAR WEST.

BY JONATHAN FREKE SLINGSBY.

CHAPTER I.

HOW THEY ALL MET AT THE HALFWAY HOUSE.

Upon a fine, bright morning in this present summer, and about two hours after daybreak, the rickety old mail-car that plies between Galway and Clifden wound its way up the steep road by the side of Lough Shindilla, and reached the Halfway House, or, as it is somewhat grandiloquently termed in the tour-books, Flynn's Hotel. The driver pulled up his horse, and applying to his mouth a battered copper bugle, blew thereon a blast consisting of a succession of monotonous brays that went rumbling and brattling up the hill-sides till they were lost in the distant acclivities of the Maamturk mountains. After a moment a man came round the corner of the house, carrying a leathern bag in his hand, and stepped out upon the roadside. He was a tall, able-bodied fellow, apparently about five-and-thirty years of age, dressed in the costume of a comfortable farmer, with an intelligent, placid countenance, and an easy swing of his limbs that bespoke at once great muscular power with no very great inclination to over-tax it—a fine specimen of a race which in this part of the world borders on the Titanic.

"Morrow, Mr. Flynn."

"Morrow kindly, Dinny. Have you anything for me from town?"

"Here's a portmanteau," said the driver, as he swung a small one from the well of the car into the arms of the host of the Halfway House; "the gentleman will be here for dinner himself at seven o'clock, and desires you have a bed for him."

The host first looked at the name upon the brass plate, "Mr. J. F. Smith," and then, apparently satisfied with the inspection, replied—

"All right, Dinny."

An interchange of letter-bags having taken place—for Mr. Flynn kept the post-office for the district—the carman executed with his tongue and teeth that indescribable *chirp* whose tone can be only approximately represented by the letters *kr-kr-kr*, and eking it out with an application of his doubled thong to the flank of his horse, away once more rumbled her Majesty's mail on its way to Clifden. The owner of the "hotel" stood a moment or two on the roadside looking about him—first up the road, then down it, then before him, and then behind; and having finally made his meteorological observations along the hill-tops, he once more passed round the corner, and was seen no more. But a stranger could not be contented with such a passing survey of the scenery around. The little wayfaring inn was retired some perches from the roadside—an humble hostelry, such as might be met with only in wild districts. It consisted of a square thatched cabin, from one of the ends of which projected at right angles a lower range, which was terminated by a little projecting building that formed the post-office. Two fine whitethorn bushes, built round with seats, stood at the exterior angle. A Cochin-China cock strutted upon an incipient heap of manure hard by, and several noble Aylesbury ducks were taking their morning bath with an abundance of quacking and splashing in a neighboring pool. In front, towards the south, might be seen stretching away the district of Iar Connaught, with many an intervening hill and lake; to the westward spread the flat, marshy ground through which ran the chain of mountain lakes so well known to all the lovers of angling; on the eastern side lay Lough Shindilla, and beyond it one might catch, northward, a glimpse of the skirt of the great Lough Corrib, with the ruins of the old fortress of the O'Flaherties, known in the legends of the country as "Cushla-na-Kirk," or the Hen's Castle; while behind the house rose, to the north, the bold outline of the Maam range of mountains, along whose base wound a bridle-road that led through the defile to the picturesque and lonely lake of Kylemore; and farther off still, in the extreme north-west, a magnificent view of the twelve pins of Bennabola opened on the vision—just now, however, the tops of those hills were crowned with a cap of clouds, which the experienced eye of the host of the Halfway House had noted with a significant shake of his head as he passed into his domicile.

"Here's Mr. Smith's portmanteau," said the host to his wife.

"That's the gentleman that we got the letter from last night," was the response.

"Of course. Kill a couple of ducks for his dinner; and have a bed ready in the little room off the parlor."

The cap of clouds was not upon the head of "the Pins" for nothing. As the day wore on, drizzling showers of rain began to fall—then they passed away, and the sunshine broke out; then the rain came again, and then the sunshine, till, by afternoon, the whole horizon closed round with dull, leaden clouds, and the heavens wore the appearance of an unmistakably wet day. At four o'clock there was a regular down-pour, just as a chaise and pair going towards Galway rattled past the house at a spanking pace. It had not passed a dozen perches when smash went the near fore-wheel—the horses came to a dead stand. The driver jumped from his seat, uttering an exclamation, half malediction, half prayer. There was a shrieking of female voices from within; and the next moment the door was opened, and out sprang a gentleman, who quickly extricated two ladies, and all three stood in the rain, looking hopelessly about them. In such an emergency the shelter of the Halfway House was not to be despised, and so the travellers and their baggage in a short time were safely deposited within its walls. They proved to be an English Gentleman with his wife and her sister, and were completing their hymenial tour in the wilds of Connemara. To repair the damage in this locality was out of the question, so it was decided that the party should put up for the night at the *hotel*, and get a fresh chaise from Galway in the morning. Accordingly they took possession of all the available apartments, except the little parlor and bedroom, which were con-

sidered to belong to Mr. Smith by right of his previous engagement. The hours wore on while the host and his family were busy in making preparations for the comfort of the bridal party, when the cuckoo upon the top of the little wooden clock beside the dresser in the kitchen began to execute a number of convulsive jerks, like a hen when meditating the operation of egg-laying, and then, with a whirring noise, the hammer of the bell struck the hour of seven. Just at the same moment a man lounged as leisurely up to the house as if the rain was not falling in tubfulls, and entered the kitchen. His legs were cased in a pair of leathern fisherman's boots that reached above the knees. He was dressed in a coat of shepherd's plaid, with a sou'wester of oilcloth on his head; a wicker basket was slung at his side, and he had a fishing-rod and landing net in his hand.

"A misty sort of an afternoon, neighbor," said the stranger, addressing the host, shaking himself like a water-dog, and dashing the rain from his hat in a shower all around him.

"Bedad, you may say that, sir," returned the host, as he helped him off with his basket, on which was written in black paint the letters J. F. S.

"Just in time for dinner, I see," said the stranger, eying a pair of ducks twisting at the fire, and exuding a most appetizing odor.

"We'll be ready for you, sir, before long," replied the host, who had noticed the initials; "you're the gentleman that was to be here this evening."

"Not a doubt of it," said the stranger. "Ah!" he continued to himself, "that was a capital thought of Wildrake, to give notice of my approach on his way to Oilenroe;" and without more ado, he seated himself at the fire, took out his cigar-case, and began to smoke, while the steam rose in rival clouds from his garments. Before long the ducks changed their locality, and lay upon the table in the little parlor, and the guest sat down to make acquaintance with them. He had just made a masterly cut right along the sternum of one of the fowls, when the grating of wheels was heard on the gravel outside; then a dialogue took place in the kitchen between the host and some one apparently just arrived.

"I'm mighty sorry I can't accommodate you, sir; the only spare room was engaged yesterday by a gentleman."

"What's his name?"

"Smith, sir."

"Why, bless me! then 'tis all right. Didn't you get my letter?"

"I got a letter, sir, certainly; but 'twas from Mr. Smith."

"Just so. I'm Mr. Smith."

"Bedad, that's dhroll, sir. Sure the gentleman's inside at his dinner this minute."

"Then, whoever he is," replied the newly arrived, "he's eating my dinner. Show me the letter. Ay, that's my handwriting. Please take in my valise. Thereupon the door of the little parlor was opened, and the gentleman entered, followed by the host. He was a large-sized, corpulent man, coated to the heels, and shawled to the nose, which organ had a rich, wine-nurtured hue, and rose between two cheeks florid and fat, that told of all sorts of good living.

"My name is Smith, sir—Mr. Joseph Foster Smith," said he, addressing the man in the shepherd's plaid coat.

"An excellent name, sir," replied the other, still sitting with his knife and fork suspended over the prostrate duck. "An excellent name for travelling with; *I* can surely have no objection to it."

"Then, allow me, sir, to inform you that you have got Mr. Smith's dinner before you."

"Well, I should think so," said the other; "however, it is quite out of the question that I could feel otherwise than kindly disposed to one of your name, especially under present circumstances; so pray sit down, my dear sir, without troubling your head any further about the matter; there's enough for us both, and just remember there are more Smith's than one in the world."

"So I perceive," said a voice as yet unheard in the room. The two others turned round, and beheld standing, just within the doorway, a small and rather fashionably dressed man, who had thrown open his light oilskin paletot, and exhibited a pair of diced trousers, of rather a gaudy pattern.

"My good fellow, be so kind as to get me my portmanteau, that I sent by the Galway mail this morning; you got a message from Mr. John Frederick Smith about dinner and a bed, didn't you?"

"In the name of the Blessed Virgin," said the host in utter bewilderment, "what's the meaning of this at all at all? Are you all Mr. Smith, or is any of you Mr. Smith, or am I myself?"

"Compose yourself, good Mr. Flynn," said the first arrived; the whole affair will be cleared up, I have no doubt, to all our satisfaction in good time. Meanwhile, gentlemen, I think we should be all good friends; so let us sit down together to dinner, and count it a pleasant chance that threw us three all together. I can add a few trout to our dinner, which are in my fishing basket yonder, and they will be ready by the time we have discussed the ducks.

"With all my heart," said Mr. Joseph Smith, winding off his shawl, and slipping out of his coat—"I saw a fine flitch of bacon in the kitchen chimney, which would make an agreeable addition."

"Especially," chimed in Mr. John Smith," with half-a-score fresh laid eggs nicely fried. I saw some capital fowl in the yard; so here goes," and he was out of his oilskin in no time, and seated at the table.

"Well, then, all's right," said the fiherman; "let us have some more plates, knives and forks, and glasses; and then, gentlemen, we can each fancy that the entertainment has been furnished for himself according to order, and that the others are his guests." And so they all fell to work right merrily.

Yes, indeed, they fell to work right merrily, and right lustily too, their merriment and their vigor increasing each moment, and growing

upon that which fed them. The ducks were speedily reduced to a heap of as dry bones as those which the prophet saw in a vision in the valley of Jehoshaphat. The trout met a similar fate, and were picked so clean that the spine and lateral bones very much resembled a number of fern leaves; and as for the rashers and eggs, there being no bones in them, they utterly disappeared, leaving not a trace behind, save a slight oleaginous deposit in the bottom of the dish.

It is a profound truth, physical as well metaphysical—and no nation under the sun is more deeply sensible of it than the English—that nothing makes men to be of one mind in a house more speedily than the process of dining together. All your charity-boards do their business upon this principle, and reconcile their differences as to the economization of their funds, and the cheapest mode of conducting their institutions, while they are sitting side by side with their spoons sipping the same turtle soup, and their legs under the same mahogany. Administrations, too, patch up their quarrels at cabinet dinners. How can the man refuse you his heart who has shared a *pâté de foie gras* with you? how can he quarrel about a measure with you, who has drank glass for glass with you out of the same decanter? I know but one exception to this great principle of eating yourself into unanimity with your neighbors, and that is the barbarous feudal practice of starving jurymen into a verdict. I never knew a jury of fat, bibulous-looking men, that were not quickly reduced to agreement by this process; 'tis only your lean fellows, with small stomachs and bad digestion that will hold out from the time they are locked up on Saturday night, till they are discharged in hopeless disagreement on Monday morning.—And so it came to pass, that by the time the three guests at the Halfway House had finished their dinner, they were in the best possible humor with each other, and seemed by common consent to avoid the subject of the strange *contretemps*. At length the cloth was removed, and the host was interrogated as to what he could produce in the way of fluid.

"What wine have you got?" asked Mr. Joseph Smith.

"Well, sir," said the host, "I am sorry to say that we're jut out of wine at present. The ladies inside got the last bottle in the house."

"Any brandy?" demanded Mr. John Smith.

"I'm afeard not, sir."

"Whisky, eh?" said the third guest.

"Plenty of it," was the ready answer.

"What *sort*?" asked the other, with a most insinuating and confidential accent on the latter word.

The host of the Halfway House eyed his guests keenly, one after another. If he had any distrust of two of them, the freemasonry of the other's face reassured him; so he replied—

"*Every* sort, sir."

"Well, then," said the fisherman, "let us have a bottle of the *right* sort, and another of *any* sort you please."

Two decanters were placed upon the table; the liquid in one was of a rich golden hue that strangely attracted Mr. Joseph Smith; that in the other was pale and pellucid as water. The fisherman looked approvingly at it; Mr. John Smith appeared to be in doubt, but something in the fisherman's eye determined him in favor of the latter, and so they got hot water and went to business.

CHAPTER II.

HOW THEY MADE A NIGHT OF IT.

The evening had deepened down into twilight, and now the twilight was sinking into night. The range of the Maam mountains was no longer visible from the two little windows that looked from the parlor northwards, and all the intervening space was gloomy and drear. The rain still continued to pour in torrents, as if no end of celestial laundresses were wringing out all the clouds of heaven after having washed them. And now the hostess came in with a candle in her hand, which she set on the table; then she closed the shutters, and asked if the gentlemen wanted anything.

"Why," said Mr. Joseph Smith, "I fancy we wouldn't be the worse of a little fire in the grate; the rain has made the evening verry chilly. What say you?"

"An excellent suggestion," replied Mr. John Smith.

"And 'twill serve to keep the kettle singing," said the third.

So in a few minutes they had a cheerful blaze of bogwood and turf, and looked as happy and snug as any three wayfaring men could reasonably expect to be.

"Well, upon my word," said Mr. Joseph Smith, gently sipping from his glass, "this is a very singular adventure, I must say."

"And, considering everything, we are not as badly off as might be expected," added Mr. John Smith.

"Nay, my friends, for you must permit me so to call you," said the third, "let us rather count ourselves singularly fortunate in each thus unwittingly ministering to the comforts of the other. Believe me, it was a happy accident that brought us three thus together: any of us singly would spend but a sad time of it here on such a gloomy night as this. And so, my friends, here is your good health both, and may this be the first of many pleasant evenings we shall pass together."

The toast was responded to heartily, and the proposer's health drunk in return.

"And now," continued the last speaker, "let us contrive to make the hours pass as pleasantly as we can. Do you remember Boccaccio's fiction of how the seven beautiful maidens of Florence retired from the city during the plague, and amused themselves by tales, and songs, and dancing? Suppose we endeavor to do something of the same sort."

"A very laudable notion," said Mr. Joseph Smith, "provided you omit the dancing."

"Granted," said Mr. John Smith, "in consideration of the difference between three Mr. Smiths in Galway, and seven beautiful virgins in Florence."

Well, then, instead of a young lady to be queen of the day, suppose we elect one of us to be king of the night, with unlimited power to prescribe the order and nature of the proceedings."

"By all means, by all means," was the response from the others.

"Gentlemen, let us elect our monarch by lot."

And so they drew lots, and the lot fell upon the fisherman.

"Now, then," said that gentleman, drawing himself up with regal dignity, "I call upon Mr. John Smith to contribute to the entertainment of our high court a song or a story."

"I cannot sing upon a full stomach—*cantabit vacuus*—which means that a man should have his wind apparatus empty when he wants to sing."

"Well, then, a story."

"Story! God bless you, I have none to tell, sir. However, I'll give you a little sketch of one of my own experiences in life. I'll call it, if you please—

A CHAPTER ON KNOCKOLOGY.

BY THE FASHIONABLE MR. S——.

I had just finished my breakfast—a solitary breakfast, *en garçon*—for Mrs. Smith, with the nurse and baby, had gone for a few days on a visit to her mother. I wheeled round my chair to the fire, placed my slippered feet on the fender—the slippers and morning gown, by the way, were resumed for the first time at breakfast since my marriage—and resigned myself to the luxury of an undisturbed perusal of *The Times*.

Do you know I felt something of the feeling of by-gone days steal over me—a feeling of solitude that had no sadness in it: of quiet, unexciting, yet most pleasurable ease in it? Memory drifted me back to my bachelor life in the Albany, and a review of the happy days in that dear, quaint city—solitude led me to the conviction that the life of a single man is, after all, not so wretched a one as young ladies and their mamas will insinuate.

"I wonder," mused I, "what Adam would have thought of a bachelor's life if he had got a fair trial of it; but he was n't left four-and-twenty hours his own master, poor fellow, and then he was seduced, henpecked, *bedevilled*, and turned out of Eden into the wide world, which he found a *damnosa hereditas*, as the lawyers say; besides, he had n't such 'friends in council' as *The Times*, or such 'companions of my solitude' as *this*." And—will you believe it?—I actually drew forth from my cigar-case, at 10 A.M., a real Havana, forty shillings per pound!

I had not taken half-a-dozen puffs when my ear was saluted with a ring of the hall-door bell—'t was a rich, melodious tinkling, that fell pleasantly upon my ear.

"Ah," said I, "'t is not so bad after all; the visitor's bell, too; who can it be?"

In a moment after, a gentleman was introduced—a man neatly dressed in a suit of black, with an ink-bottle and a book in his hand. I rose to receive him; he made a bow which I returned.

"The last quarter's tax, sir, if you please," said the intruder, opening his book, and preparing to draw his receipt, with a quiet, provoking, business-like smile. I could have annihilated the fellow with vexation; but to what avail? I could not annihilate the tax; and there he was, having gained an entrance into the very penetralia; so I had nothing for it but to open my purse, pay the amount, and dismiss my visitor.

"The deuce take these new-fangled bells," I muttered, when the fellow was clear out; "this comes of Mrs. Smith's folly in taking off the good old-fashioned knocker, and substituting this d——d tintinabulation in its place. But for the bell I should have escaped this annoyance for another month at least. I promise you, had the fellow *knocked*, I could have avoided him—I would know a tax collector's knock at half-a-mile's distance; but now he has stolen in upon me by means of this villanously undiscriminating tinkle, and plundered me unawares."

My digestion was spoiled—I threw my cigar in the fire—all my wounds were opened, and bled afresh, and I bitterly ruminated over the recent domestic contest, which had ended in the removal of the knocker, and the establishment of the bells. The affair was in this wise:—

"My dear," said Mrs. Smith, one evening in the previous week, "I wish you would have that odious, vulgar knocker taken off the door."

"Why, my love?" I asked. "The knocker is a very respectable one—is n't it?"

"Respectable!" retorted madame. "No knocker is respectable now-a-days, Mr. Smith. There's not a private house in the neighborhood with a knocker. Everybody has got a bell; besides, a knocker quite destroys my nerves."

I remonstrated; the lady replied. I reasoned; my wife grew pathetic. I can't stand a scene; so I offered to compromise.

"You may have a bell-handle, my dear, if you will, provided the bell is muffled, 'telum *imbelle* sine ictu.'"

I felt that I was getting the worst of it, when I was forced to assail a woman with a miserable pun, aggravated by being uttered in Latin. Mrs. S. fairly burst into tears at the unmanly insult. I was at once overcome.

"Well, then, *you* shall have the bell, if you will leave *me* the knocker."

[Sobbing continued—white handkerchief to the eyes—smelling-salts, and all that sort of thing.]

The bell be *hanged*, said I, pettishly.

The lady saw the day was won; the bell was *hanged* accordingly, and the knocker deposed from its time-honored position.

And now I betook myself to meditate upon the consequences of this modern revolution. I hate all revolutions, from the first revolution of the planets to the last revolution of Paris. I have seen a great many of them in my days, and fear I shall live to see a great many more. I have endured steamboats, gas-lights, railways, and magnetic telegraphs, and I don't understand what the world is the better of any of them. I I could read by a wax-light or travel by a stage-coach quite as pleasantly as by the new lights or new *motors*, as the phrase is, of the present day; and as to fast news, I always found ill news trav-

el fast enough by the old conveyances, and don't know what good there is in making mankind miserable by the medium of an electric wire. But this last device of the enemy is the worst of all. A hall-door bell is a leveller of all social distinctions, and leaves you utterly defenceless, throwing, as it were, your portals open to the invasion of all mankind, without enabling you to discriminate between the most aristocratic finger and the sooty paw of a chimney-sweep. The tongue of a bell is like the tongue of a parrot; it has but the one note for all occasions. The same monotonous "tinkle, tinkle, tinkle," announces the approach of a duke or a dun—of an archbishop or an opera-dancer. But a knocker, sir—a knocker! ah! that is an instrument of the most varied significancy, which responds to and reflects with the most wonderful nicety the *status*, temper, object, and thoughts of the manipulator; so that he who is skilled in its language can know in a moment what manner of man he is who seeks to gain an entrance into the sacred precincts of your dwelling. I will venture to affirm that during four-and-twenty hours I would not be half-a-dozen times astray as to the character of the man, woman, or child that moved my knocker. Take, for instance, that accursed tax-collector; he would have given a sneaking, shambling sort of a knock, which would have made the knocker say, as plain as if it had a tongue, "Not at home," and I should have been on my guard, and dodged him. Then the postman, what a jolly bang he used to give!—first one blow and then another, as much as to say, "*Now, then—letters!*—don't keep us waiting." Who ever mistook a postman's *knock?*—who now ever knows a postman's *ring?* Servants and mechanics understood their places, and never exceeded a single knock. The footman rained a succession of smart rat-tat-tats! that said, "My lady's at the door in the carriage." The half-gentleman always betrayed himself by commencing with an effort at a well-bred and self-assured summons of two strokes, which invariably died away in a timid, feeble rattle, as if the knocker fell from his hand by accident, and so you had no difficulty in knowing your man, and desiring yourself to be denied to him. But above all, your familiar friends were sure to be known by their knocks. Every one in the world has a peculiar distinctive mode of performing on a door, as he has a peculiar step, or voice, or cough, or whistle; and after a little time people became acquainted with it. What was more common, I appeal to every one's experience, than to hear the remark—"There's my husband"—or, "there's Tom," or "Bill; I know his knock"? But who, pray, would venture to assert—"Bless my heart, that's my wife come home already—that's her *ring*"? Ten to one, 't would turn out to be the laundress, or the pot-boy with the servants' porter. Ah! I remember how often, in my bachelor days, when I have been sitting alone over my pint of port in the evening, I started with pleasure at hearing a round, merry, off-hand clatter upon the door; and as Susan tripped up to open it, I have said, "Susan, lay another glass—that's Mr. Drylips;" to which the girl was certain to reply, with a smile, "Yes; sure, sir, 't is hisself." Could we have told all that, I'd like to know, had he pulled one of those unmeaning bells? Not a bit of us. And there was another knock that used to come six nights out of the seven—a straggling, devil-may-care, dissolute sort of a patter. What was the reason, pray, that Susan always blushed, and got all of a twitter when she heard it? Why, sir, she knew as well as if she was looking out of the window at him, that it was my wild, handsome cousin, "Blake the Blazer," as we used to call him, and so the girl had time to be on her guard, and look demure. The knocker, I verily believe, was the salvation of the girl. Had he gained an entrance by the instrumentality of a treacherous hall-door bell, he would have sprung into the girl's arms before she could have had time to bless herself.

The reccollection of all these things irritated me. I imprecated the existence of the bell; I blessed the memory of the knocker. The ghost of the dear departed seemed to rise up before me. I saw in fancy the bronzed lion's face, into which it had been configured, with the round ring through its mouth, and I thought I saw a tear in its iron eye as it gazed sorrowfully and upbraidingly upon me, and seemed to ask why I had deposed it, the trusty guardian of my house, from its place of honor. I could endure no more: I sprang up and exclaimed—

"Thou shalt be restored to thy ancient rights, thou much injured knocker. By my manhood, I will screw thee up again upon the door, beneath my door-plate, and thy pleasant face shall grin upon me in my goings out and my comings in; and let all the bell-hangers in the empire pull thee down again if they dare! To-morrow shall see thee, like the phœnix, renewed in thy strength and thy beauty!"

Alas! Mrs. Smith unexpectedly came home on the morrow, and—well, well, there are tongues that are more easily set a-going and ring longer than the tongues of door-bells; so I thought it better to let the latter wag on, if, by so doing, I could keep the former silent. And so, if you should give me a call, my dear friends, as I hope you will do one of those days, you must ring the door-bell.

Mr. John Smith's narrative led to a desultory conversation upon various old-world fashions, which the so-called wisdom of this generation had abolished. They all agreed that there were many pleasant things, especially in the retired country parts, which one regretted were no longer to be found there; and that railroads and steam-boats, if they had improved the social condition much, nevertheless had made some inroad on the simplicity and the charm of rustic life.

"Ah, sir," said Mr. Joseph Smith, "there is such a thing as going too fast a-head. When I hear of a man being in advance of his age, it reminds me of what the mesmerists, or biologists, or whatever you call them, tell of sending a man's soul out of his body; and they say that the soul sometimes gets such a start a-head that it is next to impossible to get it back again. Upon my word, I sometimes wish that those people who are in advance of their age would just go a little bit faster, and get out of sight altogether.

"And so they do, sir," said Mr. John Smith; "and where do they go, sir, do you suppose?"

"I'm blest if I can tell," said Mr. Joseph.

"Why, sir, to the prison or the madhouse, like Roger Bacon and Tasso."

"Ay, and served them right," said the fisherman. "What business had the friar to write his 'Opus Magum,' crammed with heresies, or make a brazen head full of all sorts of deviltries? As to Tasso, he was not only tainted with the madness of poetry, but went stark-mad in love with the Lady Leonora."

"Ah, sir," sighed Mr. Joseph, "worse than these things are likely to come to pass. Take my word for it, Temple bar will shortly be as traditional as old Tyburn; nay, I should not wonder if the next generation should look upon the Mayor and Corporation of London as mythical personages as King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table—heigho!"

"Come, come, my dear sir, don't be so low-spirited. I'll venture to promise you that the glory of Guildhall will last as long as the lordly merchants of Leadenhall-street; and that Gog and Magog shall grin down lovingly upon your children's children. Come, sir, I shall fine you in a song for this lese-majesty of sadness."

"I shall obey your command to the best of my poor ability. You must both fill your glasses, and join in the chorus. Ah!" continued Mr. Joseph, as he spooned out a glass of smoking punch from his tumbler, "this is somewhat irregular. We should have the juice of the grape; but you know we're roughing it to-night. Ahem, ahem."

THE SONG OF THE GLASS.

BY THE FAT MR. S——.

Come, push round the flagon, each brother,
But fill bumper-high ere it pass;
And while you hob-nob one another,
I'll sing you "The Song of the Glass."

I.

Once Genius, and Beauty, and Pleasure,
Sought the Goddess of Art in her shrine;
And prayed her to fashion a treasure,
The brightest her skill could combine.
Said the Goddess, well pleased at the notion,
"Most gladly I'll work your behest;
From the margin of yonder blue ocean,
Let each bring the gift that seems best."

["Now, then, gentlemen, chorus, if you please."
And the two others chimed in—]

Chorus—Then push round the flagon, each brother,
But fill bumper-high ere it pass;
And while { you / we } hob-nob one another,
{ I'll / You'll } sing { you / us } "The Song of the Glass."

II.

Beauty fetched from her own ocean-water
The sea-wraik that lay on the strand;
And Pleasure the golden sands brought her
That he stole from Time's tremulous hands.
But Genius went pondering and choosing,
Where gay shells and sea-flowers shine,
Grasped a sun-lighted wave in his musing,
And found his hand sparkling with brine.
Then push round the flagon, etc.

III.

"'Tis well," said the Goddess, as smiling,
Each offering she curiously scanned,
On her altar mysteriously piling
The brine, and the wraik, and the sand;
Mixing up, with strange spells as she used them,
Salt, soda, and flint in a mass,
With the flame of the light she fused them,
And the marvellous compound was—GLASS!
Then push round the flagon, etc.

IV.

Beauty glanced at the crystal, half-frighted,
For stirring with life it was seen,
Till gazing, she blushed all delighted,
As she saw her own image within.
"Henceforth," she exclaimed, "be thou ever
The mirror to Beauty most dear;
Not from steel, or from silver, or river,
Is the reflex so lustrous or clear."
Then push round the flagon, etc.

V.

But Genius the while rent asunder
A fragment, and raising it high,
Looked through it, beholding with wonder
New stars over-clustering the sky.
With rapture he cried, "Now is given
To Genius the power divine,
To draw down the planets from heaven,
Or roam through the stars where they shine."
Then push round the flagon, etc.

VI

The rest fell to earth—Pleasure caught it—
Plunged his bowl, ere it cooled, in the mass,
To the form of the wine-cup he wrought it,
And cried, "*Here's the true use of Glass!*"
Then leave, boys, the mirror to woman—
Through the lens let astronomers blink—
There's no glass half so dear to a true man
As the wine-glass when filled to the brink.

Then push round the flask, each good fellow,
Let's capture old Time ere he pass;
We'll steal all his sands while he's mellow,
And fill with the grape-juice his glass.

Mr. Joseph Smith's song was received as men are always inclined to receive a song an hour or so after dinner. After some chat about music, of which that gentleman seemed to be a great lover, the plaid-coated gentleman said—

"You were speaking some time ago about mesmerism. May I ask, are you a believer in it?"

"Well, indeed, I don't know what to say about it. I have seen very strange things, and even once I submitted to be operated upon myself, and I protest I felt very queerish; but I never allowed a second experiment, though the

operator assured me I was an excellent subject; I have rather a horror of such things."

"If you allow me," said the other, "I will recount to you my own experiences in mesmerism."

"By all means," said Mr. John Smith.

Mr. Joseph looked rather uneasy, but said nothing; the other closed his eyes for a few minutes, as if collecting his thoughts, and then began:—

THE DEAD-ALIVE.

BY THE FISHING MR. S——.

It was midnight of the 31st day of October, the vigil of All Souls, as I read in the 43rd page of the "Chronicon Magico-Mysticum" of Albertus Vanderswillenius, as they have Latinized the name of the great Dutch psychologist, the following curious observations in the chapter "de pneumatulogia":—

"Talia perpendenti, necnon, mihi certum est, quod fons et origo spiritûs (seil Deus) tam organa spiritualia quam corporalia hominibus dedit. Unde accidit ut nonnulli, missi in somnis tractatione manuum, transgradiuntur in statu εκστασεως, id est, spiritus eorum exsiliunt e corporibus, tanquam viatores exeant hospitio; et in discursionibus ejusmodi, anima vitæ incorporeæ fruitur, et organis spiritualibus utitur, itaque videt audit que invisibilia et in audibilia sensibus corporis, sicut animas morientum, angelos, demonosque in ære circumvolitantes ——"

"For heaven sake, my dear sir, give us all that in plain English," said Mr. Joseph Smith.

"The import of the passage is," continued the narrator, "that in the opinion of the author the soul hath her organs even as the body hath its senses; and that when she expatiates forth of her bodily lodging, as doth a traveller from an inn, she uses her soul-sense, so that she sees and hears the multitude of souls that throng the air around—the dying, angels, devils ——"

"Lord bless us!" cried Mr. Joseph Smith, evidently agitated.

It was midnight; the wind roared in furious gusts around the house, rattling every bolt and bar, shaking the crazy windows, and howling down the chimney-flues, as if a legion of evil spirits were rushing about and trying every mode of entrance, and then yelling in disappointed rage; and, ever, between the lulls, sheets of rain came plashing against the glass, as if the clouds were suddenly ripped open, and discharged their contents in one gush. The fire had sunk lower and lower, and the last log had ceased to emit a cheerful flame; then the red glow paled away, and the blackness of darkness crept over the charred wood, then, with a dull sound, it sank down amid the white ashes for ever. It was cold, dark, dreary, desolate; no life within that room, save the audible pulses of my own heart; no motion save that of the flame from the lamp, which flickered and swilled wildly in the chill current of the night-air, that swept fitfully through the lonely room, making the shadows of the old-fashioned furniture flutter and move to and fro, and change their forms as if they were endued with life. And as the gleamings of the light fell upon the sublime and tremendous picture of the Last Judgment (it was a rare copy of the great Michael Angelo's chef d'œuvre), the forms of the angels seemed moved as with a ghostly life, and the faces and bodies of the evil spirits and lost souls appeared as if distorted with despair and undying hatred, and writhing in endless and ever-varying agonies. And then I read these mysterious words again, and pondered over them, and sought to realize their awful meaning. By degrees I felt my spiritual life, as it were, contracting and condensing itself—calling in its diffused energies into the very citadel, and there concentrating itself in its entire power. And as my soul intensified herself more and more, I felt that I transferred my identity more to her, and withdrew it from the body. This last became, so to speak, a mere accident of my being—a foreign substance with which I had but an occasional and temporary existence At first I felt myself, that is my soul, curiously wandering about through her corporeal mansion, I saw, as plainly as the anatomist does, every nerve, muscle, and articulation. I examined the current of the blood, the functions of the stomach, the action of the heart, the motion of the brain; and understood the whole mystery of the body as perfectly and as unwonderingly as the mechanician understands the wheels, and springs, and levers, which he has put together, and set a-going. Then when I had gone all around and through the mansion, and taken, as it were, an inventory of its furniture, and seen that all was right, I straightway felt an irresistible desire to see it from the outside. First, I peeped through the windows; then I went to the door, and, finally, I was conscious of passing out through the portal. One bound, and I was free—free from the body, the door of which I left open after me. I hovered in the air, a spirit clothed in a spiritual body. How wonderful the change! Like the diver who rises to the surface, I felt the pressure of the grosser atmosphere of corporeity removed, and I expanded in an atmosphere so pure, so light, so buoyant, so exhilarating, that it seemed as if I were plunged into a bath of oxygen. After a moment of indescribably delirious pleasure, I exercised the proper functions of my new existence—that is, I began to think. I looked down upon the fleshly form in which I had so lately dwelt, with somewhat of the feelings with which one contemplates the corpse of a friend who is newly dead. I felt that what lay before me had once been very dear to me; that it had sympathized with all my emotions; that it had gone heavily when I was in sorrow; that it had rejoiced in my joy; that it had lived, in fact, but for me and with me; that it had pined and died in my absence, as the light dies when the sun is withdrawn. And there now it lay, outstretched, motionless, insensible, inanimate. Then I sighed, as one sighs at parting from the dead, ere the coffin-lid is screwed down; and I went forth alone upon my way.

Alone in the dark, ghostly, tempestuous night; yet I had quickly the consciousness of not being alone. By degrees I became accustomed to the spirit-world in which I moved, as the eyes of one who is suddenly thrust from light into darkness

become able to distinguish objects. In every direction jets of pale, odylic light were projected from the earth, somewhat as sparks are thrown off from the cylinder of an electrifying machine. These, I was conscious, were the souls that at each moment were taking their flight forever from the corpse-homes in which they had been dwelling. In some places the mass of light was dense and continuous, and these spots I found were greater cities. I looked more closely into them, and I could then discover that the intensity of the light varied greatly. Here it came up in a compact mass from lazar-houses and stilling, filthy lanes and courts by the fetid river-side. Up out of the water itself I saw a pale, thin flame flicker mournfully, just where a moment before I had heard a sullen plunge, and the next instant I beheld a whitish garment floating on the stream. I shuddered as I gazed on the corpse of a fair, young girl, with her long light tresses of silken hair streaming upon the black, sullen water. I read in a moment all the misery of her life, the mystery of her death; 'twas the story of sin and sorrow, told with such inimitable pathos by Hood—

One more unfortunate,
Weary of breath,
Rashly importunate,
Gone to her death!

Take her up tenderly,
Lift her with care;
Fashioned so slenderly,
Young and so fair!

* * * *

Cross her hands humbly,
As if praying dumbly,
Over her breast!

Owning her weakness,
Her evil behavior,
And leaving, with meekness,
Her sins with her Saviour.

And along the lordly squares, and through the dense streets, many a spirit-light passed upwards; —the young and the old, the gay and the sorrowful, the hopeful and those without hope—some with difficulty escaping from the earth-coil, as if they had been long struggling for freedom—some starting forth hastily, as if upon a sudden summons. In a foul den I heard a stifled shriek, and struggling, and curses; and I saw a strong, full flame, as if impetuously expelled through the crashed skull of a murdered man. I fled away to the country through the suburbs; but on my way I heard the moaning of children, as if through gurgling blood, and I saw the souls of six little ones, slain by their own mother, pass into the night.

Far—far away, in a moment of time, and I was by the banks of a deep and broad river. Upon its right bank rose a small town strongly fortified, and the towers, and walls, and bastions loomed heavily in the dark night. There was a deep, deep stillness around it; so still that I heard the sullen rolling of the river as it passed by. In a moment there was a flame, as from many furnaces, that lit up the landscape, and I saw armed hosts beleaguering that fortress round about, and brave men lining the towers, and on the battlements. Then came the roar of the cannon of the besiegers, breaking the solemn silence, and the quick reply of artillery and musket from the besieged; and the battle raged, and pale ghost-flames flittered upwards continually, and within the fort the light of one gallant soul fluttered, as though it would leave his body, and I knew that, ere many weeks, they would mourn the hero in his green island-home. Lo! while they fought in that lurid light, the earth was shaken with a rumbling noise, and then came a booming bellow, as of thunder; but it was not the thunder of heaven, but rather as if it had burst in hell, and rolled up through the riven earth, to mock the might of God's majesty. The torn soil was flung up high into the air from the exploded mine, and fell back to earth in a hot shower of stones; but it fell not on those towers, for it was heaved backwards upon those whose hands had fired the match, and it rent and killed them by thousands, so that their spirits passed out of that carnage like a sea of flame. Then I saw the gates of the town thrown open, and the besiegers sallied forth and they slew their foes in the midst of their confusion and terror, till they drove them before them as sheep fly before the lion; and, as I bent down, I felt the choking smoke and the hot flame penetrate my spiritual essence with a sense of intolerable discomfort. I sank down for relief into the deep stream, and felt its waters dash about me, as a voice, as of one whom I had known in the flesh, cried out—

"Oh, dear!—oh, dear!—oh, dear! I often said it would come to this, if you would persist in reading in bed."

There stood Bridget beside me with the water-jug in her hand, which she had just emptied upon the flaming curtain with such good effect that she had extinguished the flame, and almost drowned the sleeper.

"My dear Bridget," I sobbed, "this is most unfortunate; I must have fallen asleep while reading 'Albertus Vanderswillenius.'"

"Ay, to be sure, you did. One would think you sat up long enough reading about the siege of Silistria, before you went to bed."

As the narrator concluded, he looked up. Mr. John Smith had a smile on his face; Mr. Joseph Smith's countenance was motionless; his mouth was open, his eyes staring, and he had an expression of horror, wonder and stupor blent together.

"Comatose," whispered Mr. John Smith.

"Hypnotized," replied the other, in the same tone.

"Both," responded the former.

"And something in addition," added the latter, pointing to the empty tumbler of Mr. Joseph Smith. "Come, we may as well finish him off."

Thereupon the speaker rose up, and made sundry passes with his open palms, close to Mr. Joseph Smith's person, beginning at the head and down towards the stomach. In a few minutes the eyelids closed, the head fell forward upon the breast, and Mr. Joseph Smith was sleeping, as the old phrase used to have it, as soundly as a watchman.

"Dear me," said the operator, looking at his watch, "'t is just twelve o'clock; how pleasantly the night passed over."

"Ay, indeed," replied Mr. John Smith, with a yawn; "I think 't is time for us to see about beds. But how are we to manage? There are but two beds inside here;" and he drew back the curtain that separated from the little parlor an alcove, in which were two small beds.

"Oh, as for that matter, you can take one and I the other; as for our friend here, you might hang him up from one of the kitchen hooks by the waistband of his trousers."

"Faith, I believe so. Well, then, here goes for a turn in."

CHAP. III.

HOW THEY ALL WENT THEIR WAYS NEXT MORNING.

About five o'clock on the following morning, the gentleman of the shepherd's plaid arose, and stepping into the little parlor, opened the windows. 'T was a glorious morning; the whole heaven was glowing in the sunlight, and the landscape laughed out as cheerily as if no rain had ever fallen to dash its brightness. From the window one could see the distant peaks of the Twelve Pins, upon which the sun was now shining, and the whole range of the Maam hills was catching the glow, while the valley beneath still looked dim and drowsy as the white vapor was slowly exhaling from the ground, and creeping upwards along the hill-side. The man was apparently a lover of nature, for he stood long at the window, admiring the scene. Then surveying the room, and perceiving Mr. Joseph Smith still sleeping profoundly, he returned to the alcove, and touching the occupant of the other bed, said, in a low voice—

"I am going to have a stroll in the morning air; just assist me to lift our friend outside into my bed to finish his nap."

Mr. John Smith arose, and they carefully lifted Mr. Joseph Smith, and deposited him in the bed, without that gentleman being in the least disturbed by the operation. Mr. John Smith then returned to resume his sleep, and the other made a hasty toilet, and stepped out into the kitchen.

They knock up a capital breakfast for you at Flynn's Halfway House—fried bacon and eggs, fish, tea, coffee, and excellent hot cake. The three gentlemen were seated at such a breakfast as this about eight o'clock. Mr. John Smith looked uncommonly fresh and lively, and addressed himself to the good fare with a famous appetite. Mr. Joseph Smith looked a little "seedy," and seemed rather "peckish" in the way of eating. The other gentleman had nothing particular to say for himself.

"Well, what an uncommonly pleasant night we had of it, to be sure," said Mr. John Smith, as he came to a momentary pause.

"Very," said the plaid-coat. "My dear sir, you are not making any way, this morning. May I trouble you for another slice of bacon and an egg."

"Well, I can't say that I am inclined to do justice to our host's viands," replied Mr. Joseph.

"Ah, perhaps you did not sleep well last night?"

"Oh, yes, I slept like a top; but, to tell you the truth, I don't know exactly how I got into bed."

"Oh, you took yourself to your repose the first of us all."

"And by that means deprived you of your chance of getting one of the two beds: we ought to have tossed up for them."

"Pray, don't mention it, my dear sir. I slept as well as if I had been in bed the whole night, though, I confess, it is not desirable to lie in one's clothes if it can be helped."

"No, indeed," said Mr. Joseph, with a confused look, which neither of his companions appeared to notice.

All pleasure must come to an end, and therefore the breakfast was at last finished; then came the supplemental pleasure of paying the bill, which likewise came to an end.

"Well, gentlemen," said Mr. Joseph Smith, "what are your routes to-day? I am going to Cleggan to see my friend Twining's improvements. I hear he has done a vast deal in these parts."

"You have heard but the truth. The energy and judgment of Mr. Twining, added to the ability which his large means afford, have done much for the district in which happily he has become a proprietor. For myself, I shall stroll through the mountain-pass over to Kylmore."

"And I," said Mr. John Smith, "must go to Clifden."

"Then," said Mr. Joseph, "we are destined to part here; but, as our worthy friend and namesake said last night, I hope we may yet spend many pleasant evenings together. Here is my card, gentleman, and when either of you shall be in London, I trust you will not forget to call upon Joseph Foster Smith. You will find me in the morning at Leadenhall-street, or if you drop in at Bayswater-terrace about seven o'clock any day, you shall be more welcome still."

The cards were received with due acknowledgments by the two others, when Mr. John Smith said—

"Here 's my card; and whenever either of you knock—I mean ring—at my door, —— street, St. James's, John Frederick Smith will be heartily glad to see you."

By this time the third gentleman had slung his fishing-basket on his back and taken up his rod and net. He paused a moment, and then said—

"My dear friends, I lead but a lonely sort of a life in a retired part of the country; but should either of you make the tour of our southern counties, which I strongly advise you to do, and that chance should bring you near my residence, I shall be delighted to see you."

He shook each warmly by the hand as he gave him his card, and then passed from the room.

It so happened, however, that he loitered a moment in the kitchen, and while so doing, he could not avoid hearing the observations of those he had just left.

"A capital fellow, that," said Mr. Joseph Smith. "I don't know when I met a better of the name."

"What name?" asked the other.

"Smith, to be sure."

"Why, look at the card in your hand."

Mr. Joseph Smith did so, and they stared at each other, and then they burst out laughing—

"MR. JONATHAN FREKE SLINGSBY, *Carrigbawn*."

"Do you know who he is?" asked Mr. Joseph.

"I've a notion I heard the name before," said Mr. John. "The fact of it is, my dear sir, I'm greatly afraid your friends in Leadenhall-street may hear of your having sung a good song in the wilds of Galway."

"And," retorted the other, "Mrs. Smith may learn your notions of bachelor life."

"Well, it can't be helped now. At all events the worst he can tell is, how we made a night of it in the far west."

FEMALE PHYSICIANS.—A lady suffers from a headache, the female physician is called in, and prescribes a new bonnet. Another female doctor finds her patient dying to go to the seaside. The husband might as well write and take the lodgings instantly; the doctor will be sure to order it.

Prescriptions will be made up of new dresses, bonnets, boxes at the opera, broughams, a party now and then, increased allowances for housekeeping, trips out of town, and the thousand and one other little whims which ladies are constantly "dying" to be indulged in.

The doctors will declare late hours on the husband's part most dangerous; order them, as they prize their health, to leave off dining at their clubs; tell them that latch keys are undermining his constitution; that cold mutton once a week on washing days is highly beneficial to the system; and as for smoking in the drawing-room, or bringing men home unexpectedly to dinner—they would not answer for their lives a single day unless they give up such unwholesome practices.

Women have got already quite sufficient means of mastering us. Let them have doctors of their own sex to assist them, and the husband's case will be indeed a hard one.

"Perhaps, after all, there is no great absurdity in the notion of female physicians. All physicians except those who practise gratuitously, may be designated by the word female spelt with another *e;* and there are not a few of whom that is all that can be said. If the head of a woman is not calculated for the formation of a diagnosis, she can at least shake it in a difficult case, as effectually as a man can; and, having a softer and more musical voice than the masculine, she is better qualified than most men are for that large part of medical practice which consists in whispering comfort to invalids."—*Punch.*

[We copy this from Punch. A little ridicule must be pardoned when there is no other argument. We look with great interest and hope to the progress of the public mind in favor of Female Physicians. Liv. Age.]

MUSK USED IN MORTAR.—In Kara Amed, the capital of Diarbekr, there is a mosque called Iparie, built by a merchant, and so called because the builders mingled with the chalk seventy *Juk* of musk, so as always to perfume the building.—EVLIA EFFENDI.

From the Transcript.

RHYMES.

BY A BOOK-KEEPER.

I AM getting tired of driving a pen
To the tune of "dollars and cents,"
And I'd rather *dream* of a good time, when
I'll have some one collect *my* rents.

'T is true I never get down to the store
Till every one else is about;
But this write, *write*, WRITE, is a dreadful bore,
And finally wears a man out.

Think for a moment how dull it must be
Making "entries" in divers books:—
"Jones & Co. Dr. for 10 Chests of Tea,"
And "Smith for some Sugar-Box Shooks."

Jones's bill pays a "profit" of near one-half—
Your employer pockets the dross;
Smith fails ere his note is due, and such chaff
Is balanced by "Profit and *Loss*."

Again, it 'is "Sundries Dr. To Cash"
For current expenses of store;
This entry the good man reads with a d—ash!
You could almost swear that he swore.

Now 't is "Cash Dr. for money received,"
This has an agreeable sound;
The *ring* of the coin 's *too often* believed,
And true worth by the noise is drowned.

For amounts paid *in* are too soon paid *out*,
And merchants 'most always are "*short*;"
Try to borrow, and then you 'll learn past doubt,
Money never is found when sought.

Who would ever believe that the clerk, so calm,
As he ceaselessly plies his pen,
Was engaged, like soldiers, in deeds of harm,
Such as "charging" his fellow men.

Yet 't is always so: for, day after day,
The battle of Life rages on;
And the clerk *must* toil for his hard-earned pay,
Till his conflict with Life is done.

And 't will all be well if, when called above,
He reads, on a page without stain:—
"Balance transferred" to the volume of Love,
And the crown of Life be his gain.

Boston, Oct. 17, 1854. H. M.

From the Daily Advertiser.

GOETHE AND WERTHER.

A late number of a German literary journal contains a notice of a book, recently published in Germany, made up of the correspondence of Goethe with the Kestner family— Madame Kestner having been generally supposed to be the model of Charlotte, in his celebrated romance of Werther. We give a translation of some parts of this article, as entertaining, and throwing some light on the history of a romance which, though now somewhat out of fashion, was in its day probably as universally read as any work of the kind has ever been. This correspondence has been withheld from publication until recently, from the delicacy the descendants of Charlotte felt in bringing their ancestors before the public in this way. The letters were known to be in existence, and allusions to them have been made in various notices of Goethe's works. The reviewer begins his account of the correspondence, with the narrative Kestner gives of the connection of Goethe with the character of Werther. In a letter to a friend, he says:—

In the first part of Werther, Werther is Goethe himself. In Charlotte and Albert he has borrowed the features of my wife and myself. There is a great deal true in the description, altered certainly from the reality, and some things added to which we were altogether strangers. In order to prepare for the second part and the death of Werther, he had arranged some parts of the first in a way that did not refer to us at all. Charlotte, for example, had never stood in any such intimate relation to Goethe or any other person, as is there described, and this gave us great pain, because many circumstances were true, and were too well known for them not to be attributed to us. There is in Werther much of Goethe's own character and manner of thinking. Charlotte's portrait is exactly that of my wife. Albert might have been a little warmer. So much for the first part, the second we have nothing to do with. Werther in that is the young Jerusalem; Albert, the Secretary of the Palatinate legation, and Charlotte, the late Mrs. ——. Of the early history of Jerusalem, the author probably knew nothing; he therefore represented himself in this and added to it what was necessary to make it agree with the second part, and give to that more probability. This lady, too, was in no wise capable of the least unfaithfulness; she was much attached to Jerusalem, but it is certain that disappointed ambition, more than unhappy love, was the cause of his fatal resolution. He convinced himself, perhaps, that the last was the principal reason, and that the prevailing motive was certainly love.

The German reviewer here gives in a note, as his opinion, that this mingling of the two motives at that moment was what Napoleon pointed out as a defect in his conversation with Goethe. The poet justified himself then on æsthetic grounds, but it may be seen here that there was foundation for the remark. Kestner goes on:—

It is indeed a fact that I lent to young Jerusalem the pistols, without for a moment dreaming that he would make a bad use of them. He had been only twice at my house and perhaps saw the pistols hanging behind my chamber door. . . . . His story, which I investigated in the most thorough manner, because it was so remarkable, I wrote out with all the circumstances and sent it to Goethe. He made use of it in the second part of his Werther, and added somewhat to it at his pleasure.

This is the entire *species facti* respecting the relation of the Romance and Reality. At the beginning of his acquaintance with Goethe, Kestner says in one of his letters, among other things of him:—

In the spring of 1772 there came here from Frankfort a certain Goethe, in his occupation a Doctor of Laws, 23 years old, the only son of a very rich father. He has come here, according to his father's intention to practise the law, according to his own to study Homer, Pindar, etc., and to do whatever other business his genius, his disposition, and his heart may lead him to undertake. . . . . He possesses an extraordinary active imagination, which he expresses for the most part in figures and similes. He says of himself, that he always expresses himself figuratively, and cannot do it literally, but he hopes when he is older to be able to think thoughts as they are, and to say what he thinks. He is strong in all his feelings, yet has much command over himself at times. His disposition is noble, he is free from prejudice, he acts as he pleases, without troubling himself whether it pleases others, whether it is the fashion or the custom of society. All constraint is hateful to him. He loves children, and knows how to interest them. He is odd, and has in his manners much that makes him disagreeable to some persons. But with children and women, and, on some occasions, he makes himself very agreeable. He has great consideration for the female sex. He is not strong yet in his principles, and is striving after a certain system. . . . . He is not what is called orthodox, and this not out of pride or caprice, or to attract attention. He makes but little display on certain subjects of importance, and has no desire to disturb others in their quiet opinions. He hates scepticism, strives after truth and certainty on religious subjects. He thinks himself fixed on fundamental principles, but, as I before remarked, he is not. He does not go to church, nor to the Lord's supper—prays but seldom. He strives after truth, but is moved more by feeling than by demonstration.

Two months after Goethe had gone to Frankfort, on the 18th of November, 1772, Kestner writes of his relations to Charlotte and himself. After describing Goethe's com-

ing from Frankfort and his reasons for coming, nearly in the same words as in the letter quoted above, he says:—

"Quite accidentally he became acquainted with Charlotte, and found in her his ideal of an excellent woman. He saw her first in her gay humor, but soon became aware that this was not her best side. He learned to know her in her domestic relations, and, in a word, became her adorer. He could not long remain ignorant that she could give him nothing but friendship, but though he saw he must relinquish all hope, and did relinquish it, yet with all his philosophy and his natural pride, he could not command himself enough to control his inclination, and a man like him could not but be dangerous to a woman of taste and feeling. But Charlotte was able to treat him in such a manner, that no hope could spring up, and he could not but be amazed at her propriety of conduct toward him. His repose however suffered from it, many remarkable scenes took place, in which Charlotte gave me new cause to love her, and he became more valued by me as a friend, and I could not but be myself many times astonished, at the deep effect which the passion of love could have upon such a strong and independent man. But of course the affair gave me pain, and there arose within me a struggle, when I thought on one hand, that it might not be in my power to make Charlotte so happy as he could do, and on the other hand I could not for a moment sustain the thought of losing her. This last feeling prevailed. In Charlotte I never once perceived a shadow of her returning his affection. In short he began after some months to see that for his own quiet he must break off the affair. The moment he came to this determination, he left our city without taking leave, after having made several vain attempts at flight. We exchanged letters briskly after his departure. After a short time he returned here with a friend who had some business, and would have perhaps been here still if his companion's affairs had not been wound up in a few days, and a reason had thus been given for moving, for he follows the last idea, and does not trouble himself for consequences, and this arises from his character which is an entirely original one."

Who does not remember, says the reviewer, the glorious scene in Werther, in which the young man in despair parts from his beloved? It is painted entirely from reality, but we must maintain that the reality, as it is placed before us in these letters, is much more pure, more beautiful and poetical than the romance. Even the little humorous seasoning of this narrative has something amiable in it. When the family where he lived had received the note, in which Goethe announced his journey, which he already begun, and were thrown by it into the deepest fear and sorrow, Kestner says of this:—

"Madame Lange took occasion to send a message by her maid that she thought it very rude for Dr. Goethe to go away without taking leave. But Charlotte asked in reply why she had not brought up her nephew better. In the afternoon I brought the note from Goethe to Charlotte.—She was disturbed at his departure, and the tears came into her eyes as she read it, yet she was pleased that he was away, since she could not give him the love he wished for. We talked of nothing else but him. I could think only of him, and I defended the manner of his departure, which was blamed by persons who did not understand the matter. I did so with much earnestness."

The exchange of letters goes on uninterruptedly through the years 1772, '73 and '74. Goethe expressed the greatest warmth of feeling; his interest went so far, that he entered into a correspondence with a young brother of Charlotte, and regularly received news about her from him. But when here and there an enthusiastic expression is met with in these letters, it does not give the impression of a brother-like character. The circumstances that Kestner and Charlotte concealed from him their wedding day, out of delicacy, is in the Romance. Only once after this anniversary is there involuntary expression, April 16, 1773, when he thought he perceived in a letter of Kestner's a silent reproof.

"Oh, Kestner! when have I grudged Charlotte to you, in a human sense; not to grudge her to you in a holy sense, I must be an angel without lungs or liver. Yet I must reveal to you a secret. When I attached myself to Charlotte, and that was as you know from the heart, Born said to me, "if I were Kestner, I should not like it; what will it end in; you will withdraw her from him; and the like." I replied to him in his parlor, in these words, it was in the morning: "I am now fool enough to think the woman something remarkable. If she were to deceive me and should prove to be nothing more than common, keeping Kestner as the foundation of her actions, to play off her charms the more securely, the first moment that I discovered this to be the case, the first that brought her near to me, would be the last of our acquaintance,"—and that I avowed and swore to, and between ourselves without boasting—I understand women tolerably well, and you know how I have stood and will stand with regard to them and all that concerns them, wherever they may be, to the end of the world."

We now come to the time when he was at work upon Werther, after speaking of his poem of the Wanderer he says:

I am now at work upon a romance, but it drags heavily. Yet a word in confidence, as an author. My ideal grows daily in beauty and size, and if my activity and my love does not leave me, my love will do me good service, and the public shall have a share of it."—(From a letter dated Sept. 15, 1773.)

From time to time he prepared them for what was to come by dark hints. In May, 1774, he writes:

"I see her always as I left her, and I neither know you as a husband, nor perhaps in any other relation than the old one, and on certain circumstances strange emotions are represented and carried out, of which I warn you, that you may not be shocked.

And again he writes, May 11:

"Adieu, friends whom I love so much, that I must borrow and adapt for the dreamy representation of the unhappiness of our friend the fulness of my own love."

These dark places were explained, when in September, 1774, Goethe sent them a copy of Werther before the book was published. He did this in the most perfect innocence, and almost with the conviction he was making therewith a love present. Kestner's answer must have undeceived him.

"Your Werther would have given me great pleasure, as it reminds me of many interesting scenes and incidents. But as it stands, it has done me injustice in certain respects. You know I am willing to own, where it represents me — but you have woven into every character much that is foreign to it, or you have melted several characters into one. To that I have no objection; but if you, in your weaving and mingling, had taken a little more counsel of your heart, the real persons, whose features you have borrowed, would not have been so abused. You wished to draw from Nature, in order to bring truth into your picture; and yet you have brought into it so much that is contradictory that you have failed of your object. The author has taken the upper hand, but I maintain the reality and truth itself, when I judge that the painter has failed . . . The real Charlotte, whose friend you still wish to be, is in your picture, which contains more than it ought about her, as it is wrong to point her out so plainly is, I say — yet no, I will not say it, it grieves me too sorely, to think of it. And Charlotte's husband, you call him your friend, and God knows that he was — is in your book — and the wretched creature of an Albert, I hope he is not a copied portrait, yet he has so far the features of an original (on the outside only, God be thanked that it is only on the outside), that it may easily be mistaken for the reality. And if you wished it, was it necessary to make him such a stupid fellow, to make him come proudly in and say: "See what a fool I am?"

No one can feel that these remonstrances were not entirely justified, when it is known that Kestner defended Goethe warmly against the censure of others. Goethe at the first moment was stunned and deafened by it, but in the next letter, Nov. 21, 1774, he rises to the full feeling of poetical vocation:—

Oh, ye of little faith, if you could feel a thousandth part of what Werther is to a thousand hearts, you would not reckon the cost you have had to pay * * * I would not, to save my own life, call Werther back again, and believe me, your vexations will vanish like spectres of the night, if you have patience, and I presume you have, to drive away, as the north wind disperses a fog, all that remains of suspicion, mistrust and the like, in the mind of the public, though this public is, I confess, a herd of swine. Werther must, must live. I felt him not, I felt only myself and you, and what is moulded on you, woven into you, as I live you are not Albert, and also —give Charlotte a hand all warm from me, and tell her that to know her name is spoken with reverence by a thousand holy lips is some equivalent for a vexation, which, as things go in common life, is not worth grieving long about.

The German writer adds:

Posterity has accepted this justification, and the friends accepted it, though some little dissatisfaction still remained. Goethe to quiet this in the new edition of Werther in the year 1783, softened somewhat the hard picture of Albert. Dunzer has in his edition collected these alterations, and we might on the whole think that the first representation was more true and natural, as the best and most patient man must, at a relation like that represented in the second part of Werther, have at last become enraged. The letters after Goethe's retirement to Weimar become less frequent, but they display the same warmth and heartiness till the death of Kestner in 1790. No one will lay down the book without renewed love and admiration for the great poet. A very good silhouette of him, Charlotte's portrait, and several autographs, adorn the volume which is published, under the title of "Goethe's Letters, principally in his early life, with explanatory documents; prepared by A. Kestner," by Cotta, at Stuttgard and Tubingen.

NEW BOOKS.

We have received the following new books from the publishers:—

The Parables of the New Testament, practically unfolded. By the Rev. William Bacon Stevens, D. D. E. H. Butler & Co.: Philadelphia. [Expensively printed and bound, with engravings of the following subjects: The Ten Virgins; And the Door was shut; The Unmerciful Servant; The Prodigal Son; The Good Samaritan; The Laborers in the Vineyard; The Wicked Husbandmen; Lazarus at the Gate.]

Lives of the Queens of England before the Norman Conquest. By Mrs. Matthew Hall. Blanchard & Lea: Philadelphia. [A handsome Octavo; and, from the character of the Publishers, we presume it will become a part of every good library.]